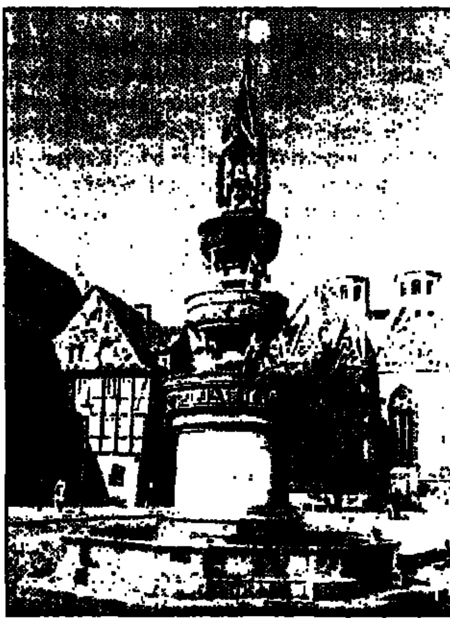
Routes to tour in Germany

The Harz and Heath Route

Lüneburg
Uelzen
Gifhorn
Braunschweig
Wolfenbüttel
Bad Harzburg
Braunlage
Herzberg
Göttingen
Duderstadt



German roads will get you there – to areas at times so attractive that one route leads to the next, from the Harz mountains to the Lüneburg Heath, say. Maybe you should take a look at both.

The Harz, northernmost part of the Mittelgebirge range, is holiday country all the year round. In summer for hikers, in winter for skiers in their tens of thousands. Tour from the hill resorts of Osterode, Clausthal-Zellerfeld or Bad Harzburg or from the 1,000-year-old town of Goslar.

The Heath extends from Celle, with its town centre of half-timbered houses unscathed by the war and the oldest theatre in Germany, to Lüneburg, also 1,000 years old. It boasts wide expanses of flat countryside, purple heather and herds of local curly-horned sheep.

Visit Germany and let the Harz and Heath Route be your guide.





1 Brunswick
2 An old Lüneburg Heath farmhouse
3 The Harz
4 Göttingen



The German Tribune

Hamburg, 4 December 1988
Twenty-seventh year - No. 1349 - By air

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Hopes for early agreement at Vienna talks fade

General-Anzeiger

There was optimism in Bonn that a breakthrough at the Vienna CSCE review conference on a mandate for conventional disarmament negotiations was imminent. This optimism was encouraged by hints from the Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

But since then doubts about this probability have surfaced in both in Washington and Paris. Now Bonn too has changed its mind and feels that agreement by the end of the year is unrealistic.

Conventional arms and their reduction by both pacts, especially the elimination of a substantial Soviet superiority in manpower and material, are still to the fore in Western arms control policy.

Page 4: Hans-Dietrich Genscher talks about East-West relations and says why he thinks normalisation of relations between China and Russia would be a force for stability in the world.

The Soviet Union has also hinted that it is agreed in principle to holding negotiations on this subject.

But Soviet proposals to hold a human rights conference in Moscow and an East-West trade conference have led to a consultation backlog in the final stage of the Vienna CSCE review conference and to differences in assessment within the West.

Two factors are important. One is the transitional period before the transfer of power in the White House, which despite the fundamental continuity of views held by Ronald Reagan and George Bush on East-West ties, and especially on security and arms control, is causing delays in detailed opinion-forming.

The other is France's reservations about a conference on conventional disarmament to be restricted to the 23 military members of Nato and the Warsaw Pact.

Paris would prefer to see these talks attended by all 35 CSCE countries, including the neutrals and non-aligned states.

President Mitterrand is afraid that direct talks between the blocs might include France in what is, as he sees it, unacceptably automatic disarmament.

Yet he is well aware, and appreciative, of Bonn's dissatisfaction at the idea of prolonging the Vienna talks into the New Year.

He certainly has no intention of allowing France's attitude to be seen as a pretext for delaying the conference on conventional disarmament.

There is indeed no such thing as a "Franco-German problem" on this issue. Such differences as exist are between France and the other Nato partners.

Yet all concerned feel a compromise is both feasible and essential. The German Federal government, contrary to occasional insinuations, is not under pressure of time.

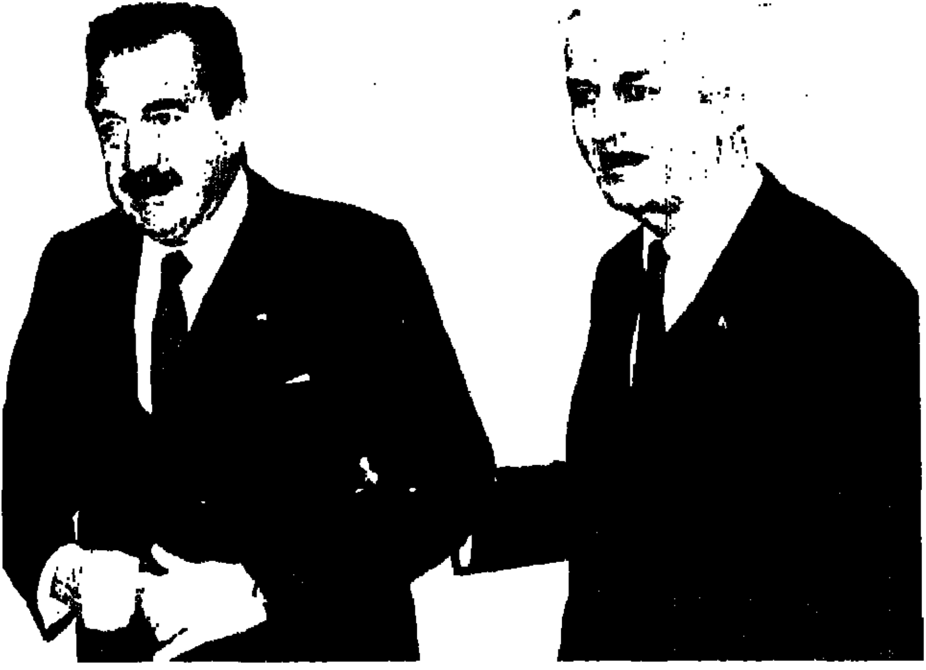
The Chancellor has no difficulty in realising this is not the case. Herr Genscher would also do well to allow time and place to encourage a compromise as opinions take shape.

The Gorbachov Factor can be sure to have its effect in the Soviet leader's forthcoming talks with M. Mitterrand, Mrs Thatcher and Mr Bush.

All in all, however, there are fine prospects of the mandate for talks on conventional arms reduction to be included in the overall strategic concept that is now being drawn up for North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

It is planned for presentation in time for Nato's 40th anniversary, to be celebrated next June in London. Mrs Thatcher has insisted on holding a Nato summit to mark the occasion.

Friedhelm Kemna
(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 24 November 1988)



Argentina's President in Bonn

Argentina's President Raul Alfonsin (left) gets a helping hand from Bonn President Richard von Weizsäcker at a reception in Bonn. President Alfonsin was paying a working visit to the Federal Republic to discuss a wide range of topics. (Photo: [illegible])

IN THIS ISSUE

A supplement, Third World Review, is included in this edition

Softly, softly diplomatic policy pays Iranian dividends

Handelsblatt
WIRTSCHAFTS- UND FINANZZEITUNG

Foreign Minister Genscher has made it a policy principle not to allow diplomatic ties to be broken off, even in politically difficult times.

This principle was applied in Iran's case after the Islamic revolution and during the Gulf War — and it drew criticism from Bonn's allies, some of whom had cut links.

But the principle has paid dividends. If it hadn't been for it, a German businessman called Rudolf Cordes who was taken hostage in Lebanon would not have been released.

Bonn was also able to help settle the dispute over the inadvertent shooting-down of an Iranian airliner by a US warship over the Persian Gulf.

Last but not least, Herr Genscher was the first Western Foreign Minister after the end of hostilities in the Gulf to fly to Iran. He went there at the head of a large industrial delegation.

While not aiming at a special relationship between Germany and Iran, he was naturally keen to use the political and economic opportunities which were more quickly available to Bonn than to others.

He also hoped, during his two-day visit to Teheran, to promote the reopening of Iran to the west and the improvement of relations with its neighbours (but not to take on an intermediary role).

The industrial delegation, which was extremely high-powered, planned jointly with Herr Genscher to gain a clearer idea in the Iranian capital what economic policies Iran now plans to pursue.

Heavier commitments by German firms will depend partly on the progress of peace talks with Iraq and partly on whether Iran is heading more toward a socialist or a liberal, Western economic system.

German firms do have a head's start in Iran. Like German diplomats, most of them did not quit the country during the revolutionary turmoil.

The Confederation of German Industry *(BDI) has reservations on the* outlook for business with Iran, but in the final analysis optimism prevails.

No topical political or economic agreements were reached during the visit, although a major Siemens telecom project was said to have made considerable headway.

German industry is also hopeful in the context of a change in the trend of German-Iranian trade ties.

For the first time since 1983 both imports and exports are on the increase, especially Iranian oil exports, even though the decline in oil prices and the dollar exchange rate has ruled out any increase in cash terms.

In Bonn there are justified hopes of the mixed economic affairs commission, which has not met since the outbreak of revolution, meeting again foir the first time in Teheran in the first half of next year.

Further information about the future of reciprocal trade ties will then be possible.

An Iranian delegation is expected to visit Bonn in December to prepare for the meeting of the mixed commission.

Hans Jörg Sottorf
(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 25 November 1988)

■ INTERNATIONAL

Kremlin: troubles up north, troubles down south

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Mikhail Gorbachov's statesmanship faces a test that in its problem potential calls squaring the circle to mind. Nothing else seems to fit recent developments in the Baltic and Transcaucasia.

Until not long ago nearly all the signs were that the success or failure of what, in some cases, are breathtaking reform endeavours would depend first and foremost on the pace and extent of an increase in living standards for what will soon be 300 million Soviet citizens.

It now seems likelier that the outcome will depend to a much greater extent on whether the Soviet leader can hold his multinational state together without transforming his slogans into their very opposite.

When he assumed office in spring 1985 and cautiously but determinedly began to open the escape valve he is unlikely to have imagined what a head of steam had built up over the decades of totalitarian rule beneath the blanket of ideological faith-healing and propagandist self-delusion.

The political risk Mr Gorbachov ran seemed to be limited as long as glasnost and perestroika met with more faith and hope in the West than in the Soviet Union itself.

In retrospect it now all looks different. The Soviet leader was first taken really at his word not by President Reagan but by the regional Soviet of a mountainous part of Transcaucasia that initially meant little or nothing to most Russians.

The reference is to Nagorny Karabakh and to the Soviet leader's neo-Leninist catchphrase that all power belongs to the Soviets.

With reference to this catchphrase the Nagorny Karabakh Soviet demanded to be transferred from Islamic Azerbaijan, in which the region had been incorporated in the early days of Sovietisation in Transcaucasia, to the Christian Soviet republic of Armenia.

This demand promptly led to bloodshed, as yet an isolated phenomenon inasmuch as the Armenians, who were ruthlessly persecuted by the Turks, see the Azerbaijanis as blood brothers of their historic arch-enemies.

Yet glasnost and the more honest and franker approach to Soviet history over and beyond the Caucasus initiated by Mr Gorbachov released long-suppressed and increasingly virulent nationalist tendencies.

In the Ukraine and Byelorussia these tendencies are expressed more covertly. In Armenia, Georgia and the Baltic states they are voiced frankly and openly.

Only at first glance does it appear inappropriate that the Soviet leader's reform proposals were first most enthusiastically endorsed in the Baltic states.

That changed when Mr Gorbachov decided, in view of Greater Russian inertia and dislike of "new thinking," that his ideas might be better implemented by a strong central power.

The Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians might have accepted him having his own position mainly in mind, not long ago taking over as head of state in what seemed little short of a coup d'état.

But on reading the small print of amendments to the Soviet constitution Soviet "federalists" noted that Mr Gorbachov basically proposed to assume even more far-reaching legal powers at the expense of individual Soviet republics than Stalin had in his 1936 constitution.

As for the stiff resistance offered, in the course of which local Party leaders emerged as popular heroes (another new phenomenon), in the Baltic it is the backlash to decades of rigorous Russification.

Yet even constituent republics less immediately affected are reluctant to accept the idea that a central parliament in which Russians automatically predominate is to be the sole arbiter of their status and influence in the Soviet Union.

What is more, the president of the Supreme Soviet is to be entitled to undertake "special measures" to discipline constituent republics and autonomous areas.

Nothing would then be left, not even on paper, of the "sovereignty" of these republics, let alone of their seeming constitutional right to secede from the Soviet Union.



Weizsäcker in Bulgaria

Be my guest. Bonn President Richard von Weizsäcker (left) with Bulgarian party chief and state President Todor Zhivkov in Sofia. Herr von Weizsäcker was making a four-day official visit to Bulgaria, where he held wide-ranging talks with various officials. (Photo: dpa)

As a lawyer by profession Mr Gorbachov has here come up with anything but a masterpiece of reform. The "harmonisation" of relations between the Soviet Union and its 15 constituent republics is made yet more difficult by the fact that he has surrounded himself almost exclusively with fellow-Russians in the upper echelons of the CPSU.

The exception is Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, a Georgian, but the present Soviet leadership includes no-one from Transcaucasia, from Central Asia or from the Baltic. The result is the risk of a Greater Russian reaction, tinged with chauvinism, to the demands for greater independence lodged by non-Russian nationalities.

Mr Gorbachov will nonetheless have to make concessions to these other nationalities if he is to avoid an even more dangerous trend, with unforeseeable consequences for his shaky empire.

Werner Adam

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 25 November 1988)

Mitterrand and Kohl make a common Ostpolitik cause

Helmut Kohl, a German Conservative, and François Mitterrand, a French Socialist, seem inseparable.

Just after having been jointly awarded the Charlemagne Prize in Aachen and holding Franco-German consultations in Bonn Herr Kohl was in Paris for ceremonies to mark the birth centenary of Jean Monnet, a French pioneer and champion of European integration.

The celebrations this politically ill-matched duo are sharing form part of a deliberate and consistent policy programme.

President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl are keen to transform their cooperation into an irreversible process that will speed the pace of European integration.

Since they conferred in early November, if not beforehand, the common foreign policy pursued by Bonn and Paris has assumed a European dimension with repercussions on world affairs.

M. Mitterrand flew to Moscow on 25 November to espouse the same Ostpolitik, down to the finest detail, as Herr Kohl had done a month earlier.

What they want is realistically calculated cooperation between France and Germany and Moscow, and between Western and Eastern Europe, mainly in economic affairs and security policy.

This closely interlinked Ostpolitik, based on the consideration that there is no time for lengthy lacunae in security policy and disarmament in particular, is deliberately intended by Bonn and Paris to bridge the gap left by power changing hands in the White House.

France and the Federal Republic have made common cause as an interim world power, but the Europeans can only derive benefit from this move if the concept proves strong enough to remain effective as the nucleus of a much-vaunted European pillar between the superpowers as they come closer together.

M. Mitterrand's decision to activate French Ostpolitik and closely coordinate it with Bonn corresponds to an urgent European need. As in the case of most Franco-German pacemaker services on Europe's behalf, other European countries are invited to follow suit.

That ought to be a challenge for Italy, for instance, not to mention Spain. Mrs Thatcher's Britain may find it a tougher propposition to accept.

For the German Federal government joining forces with France on Ostpolitik is all the more important in that France cannot in the least be suspected of going it alone or of toying with neutralism.

Even more than economic and cultural cooperation the new Ostpolitik aspect of Franco-German collaboration is an investment in the political union of Europe that is planned to emerge from the single internal market.

A united Western Europe is bound to be judged mainly in terms of how it manages to hold its own as a third force between the United States and the Soviet Union.

If it is to do so Western Europe will need to come up with promising approaches to dealing with its foremost neighbour in Eastern Europe.

Whether East-West cooperation in Europe may grow so close as to make the respective present pacts superfluous is certain not to be decided in the next few years.

But the fine words and good intentions of Mr Gorbachov's "common European house" or the "all-European peace order" espoused by Herr Kohl and Herr Genscher will not make sense unless supranational structures in Western and Eastern Europe are aimed from the outset at an all-European opening.

The European Community in particular, with its economic and political ambitions, must take care to ensure that it doesn't widen or deepen the European divide — or create a gap that can no longer be bridged.

Both M. Mitterrand and Herr Kohl are well aware of this danger of isolation. Their joint Ostpolitik is an attempt here and now to steer clear of this impasse.

An all-European axis extending from Moscow to Bonn and Paris, and possibly on to Madrid, would be a sound initial foundation.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 8 November 1988)

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

New Bundestag Speaker a popular choice

The Minister of Health, Family and Youth Affairs, Rita Süssmuth, is the Bundestag's new Speaker. She replaces Philipp Jenninger, who resigned after a controversial speech this month to mark the 50th anniversary of *Kristallnacht*. Frau Süssmuth, 51, a professor of education, has been a member of the *Christian Democrats* for just eleven years.

Rita Süssmuth was nominated as Speaker by her fellow-Christian Democrats with a more approval and goodwill than most of her predecessors received.

She was not the candidate first favoured by Chancellor Kohl, who would rather have had CDU/CSU parliamentary party leader Alfred Dregger sent upstairs and out of the way.

Herr Dregger stubbornly refused, which can only be good for the Bundestag. He is so straitlaced that he is no longer even popular with many fellow-Christian Democrats. He would have been the wrong man for the job.

Frau Süssmuth agreed only after some consideration. She hopes she will come to enjoy the job, although she knows very little about it in detail.

Helmut Kohl, the CDU and the coalition are all in her debt for having stepped into the breach left by Philipp Jenninger and ending the drawn-out dispute over who was to succeed him.

After at least two candidates (Herr Dregger and Intra-German Affairs Minister Dorothee Wilms) had declined, Frau Süssmuth might even turn out to be a neat solution.

In protocol terms the Bundestag Speaker ranks second only to the head of state in Bonn but is politically nowhere near No. 2.

There is no room for exercising power at the helm of the Bundestag, but reputation and prestige can nonetheless be earned.

In everyday parliamentary routine the Speaker is no more than a master of ceremonies. He (or she) and the deputy, together with the council of elders, are entrusted with reaching agreement between the parliamentary parties on the agenda for Bundestag sessions.

In the process the Speaker can set certain keynotes so as to emphasise one event or another, but the Speaker must be strictly neutral and is not allowed to interfere with parliamentary proceedings with party-political bias.

There have been nine Speakers in nearly 40 years, including several who were not particularly memorable. But two, Hermann Ehlers (1950-54) and Eugen Gerstenmaier (1954-69), were outstanding personalities.

Both demonstrated that the Speaker's work can be of greater significance than is envisaged in Basic Law, the 1949 Bonn constitution.

As in the case of the Federal President, an incumbent can be a brilliant speaker whose words are heeded or, as in Herr Jenninger's case, a failure.

So Frau Süssmuth as a former university professor (of education) may find her new job an educational challenge.

She will certainly not content herself with compering politics in the Bundestag by deciding who is to speak next, as Herr Dregger once said, disparagingly dismissing the job.

Chancellor Kohl's grey-tinged Cabinet will be the loser by her departure, but the Bundestag will probably stand to gain. She is a woman with views of her own, and views that are often unconventional among Christian Democrats.

Yet she has only been a Christian Democrat for eleven and a Bundestag member for two years, and has earned a reputation that is better than her performance has been while in charge of

Continued on page 13

Post-Strauss CSU emerges as union's stabilising factor

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

The CSU has got off to a good start in its new era. Franz Josef Strauss, who died two months ago, was its all-powerful leader for decades.

He made his mark on a party that, contrary to expectations even among its own ranks, let alone the fond hopes of its political foes, has smoothly settled the matter of succession.

There has been neither a power struggle between would-be successors who could not have held him a candle while he was still alive nor policy disputes between the various wings of the party.

The CSU has succeeded, in an impressive display of unity, in voting two politicians held in high repute both inside and outside the party to take over as Bavarian Premier and CSU leader respectively.

Theo Waigel was voted leader by an overwhelming majority at the party conference. Max Streibl had already taken over as Prime Minister. Both are leading politicians with unblemished reputations who didn't angle for office.

They both came by their respective jobs by virtue of personal authority. Unlike others in the CSU, neither owed his authority to Herr Strauss.

At the CSU conference Helmut Kohl, the CDU leader, was frankly advised to pay more attention to his own party. He was even told that he could see for himself in Munich how personnel problems were best solved.

The change of power in Bavaria is certainly a glorious counterpart to the inglorious fresh start in Herr Kohl's own Rhineland-Palatinate.

Within a brief period the CSU has grown from an increasingly unpopular mischief-maker in the Bonn coalition to the stabilising factor in the CDU/CSU.

The poor present state of the CDU certainly makes Helmut Kohl vulnerable, not to mention CDU general secretary Heiner Geissler.

Some Christian Democrats may have hoped the hands could be redealt within the CDU/CSU once Herr Strauss was out of the running.

They may have had fond hopes of the CSU declining in importance, especially at national level, eventually amounting to little more than the Bavarian branch of the CDU.

But they were wrong. The CSU is strong, whereas there have been an alarming number of weak spots in the CDU both in Bonn and in the *Länder*.

This CSU strength and CDU weakness cannot fail to have their effect on day-to-day politics in Bonn. The CDU has failed to gain credit for the extraordinarily favourable course of economic development and now faces two opponents.

They are a reformed FDP with a strong leader which must attract many potential CDU voters and a CSU that is no longer prepared to allow itself to be cast in the role of coalition joker.

Herr Geissler has been the loser of late. The reform wing of the CDU has been weakened by Rita Süssmuth's departure from practical politics (and in other ways too).

A year ago Herr Geissler felt able to style himself acting chairman of the CDU. Today he is no longer powerful enough to impose on the Chancellor his choice to succeed Frau Süssmuth as Health Minister.

He is coming up against increasing resistance to his attempts to canvass CDU/CSU support among new categories of voter.

The CSU, for instance, is opposed to Herr Geissler to a man when he visits Chile rather than trouble-shooting in his own party.

When he refers to a "multi-cultural society" many Christian Democrats and the entire CSU are shocked and horrified; they would prefer to see the Aliens Act made much more stringent.

His public statements on the German Question have met with the uniform opposition of both party leaderships.

The CSU, as Dr Waigel and Herr Streibl made it more than clear in Munich, plan to devote more time and attention to their traditional voters. Fundamentalists are thus being given a free hand in the abortion debate.

As both the CDU and the CSU are afraid of right-wing support crumbling, the influence of the conservative CSU on the entire CDU/CSU seems sure to increase. CDU/CSU ranks are being closed, with both parties moving further right for fear of fresh groups forming.

This trend leads to such unpleasant quirks as Herr Zimmermann's draft aliens legislation and Herr Stoiber's most unfortunate reference to a racially mixed society (clearly intended as a pejorative).

There is little scope for reformers in a CDU/CSU where views of this kind can originate and flourish.

Yet if a weakening of the reform wing is the price to be paid for closer cooperation between the CDU and CSU, an uncertain future lies ahead for the CDU, as opposed to the CSU.

Adrian Zielcke

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 21 November 1988)

A mother, a Catholic and a liberal

Lovely Rita, as she is — perhaps inevitably — known in the CDU and by her friends, can look on an unprecedented rise to the top in her political career.

Frau Süssmuth, 51, a Dortmund professor of education and women's rights campaigner, is the new Bundestag Speaker.

She only joined the CDU — in Neuss, near Düsseldorf, where she still lives — in 1977. She dealt mainly with family and women's affairs.

In September 1985 she was appointed Minister of Youth, Family Affairs and Health by Chancellor Kohl.

She took over from Heiner Geissler, who had just succeeded in extending maternity leave to up to a full year.

A year later she took over as head of the CDU women's branch and a year later still as deputy Federal chairman of the CDU.

In the 1987 general election she just polled enough votes to win the Göttingen constituency for the CDU.

She is also a member of the Lower Saxon CDU executive committee, which has prompted repeated speculation that she might take over from Ernst Albrecht as Prime Minister in Hanover.

The late Bavarian Premier, Franz Josef Strauss, said of Frau Süssmuth when her portfolio was enlarge to include women's affairs that the success of the entire Kohl administration depended on her performance.

Lady with the gavel. CSU leader Theo Waigel (left) congratulates Rita Süssmuth. (Photo: dpa)

In the CDU she did not have just friends. Long-serving female and conservative male members of the CDU first had to come to terms with a woman they saw as an inconvenient interloper.

As a Minister she constantly demonstrated her independence, occasionally making enemies but soldiering on.

"You could hardly have been more inexperienced than I was when I switched to politics," she says, feeling she has done extremely well in two years as Minister.

Frau Süssmuth is a Roman Catholic and an active member of Roman Catholic lay organisations.

She became vice-president of the German Catholic Family League in 1980 and from 1982 until she joined the Cabinet she headed the marriage and family affairs commission of the Central Committee of German Catholics.

Her liberal views on family policy and on how to handle Aids are far from uncontroversial among Catholics, whereas she has frequently been applauded by the Social Democrats and the Greens.

She is married to Düsseldorf historian Hans Süssmuth. They have a 21-year-old daughter, Claudia, who is always consulted first when her mother is offered a new job.

She evidently approved of the idea of her mother taking over as Bundestag Speaker.

Burkhard Rexin

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 19 November 1988)

■ INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER

East-West relations: the signs are pointing towards rapprochement

Normalisation of relations between China and the Soviet Union would help and not harm international stability, says German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. He told Bodo Schulte in an interview for the *Nordwest Zeitung* that Western fears about such a normalisation were outmoded and dangerous. He says the West should cooperate with the East Bloc in all fields and should reduce the Cocom limits on technology and equipment exports. On security: conventional stability was the central problem. The aim must be *to find a wider form of deterrent to replace the nuclear deterrent.*

Question: Prior to your talks with Chinese Party and government leaders in Peking you and Chancellor Kohl were in Moscow.

Issues raised in the Soviet capital included Sino-Soviet rapprochement, which is welcomed in the West, although assessments differ in detail.

Yet fears have been voiced lest cordial ties as envisaged between the Russian bear and the Chinese dragon lead to the emergence of a communist bloc more powerful than can be to the West's liking.

Answer: My impression both in Moscow and Peking was that a normalisation of relations is considered desirable. It would be right, make sense and be in the interest not only of these two countries but of the entire international community.

It would contribute toward international stability. The fears you mention reflect an outmoded and dangerous foreign policy viewpoint that seeks to derive benefit from disputes between other countries.

We in contrast are in favour of eliminating tension throughout the world. That presupposes a desire to reach agreement and a renunciation of power politics, of the desire to achieve superiority and of the arms race.

East and West, North and South must *join forces and do justice to their joint responsibility* for the future of mankind. This is a point that is increasingly appreciated.

The growing success the United Nations is having in resolving regional conflicts reflects a new international sense of responsibility.

Q: The Federal Republic's interest in reform processes succeeding in Moscow and Peking prompts the question what can be done to encourage and promote the transformation of systems now in progress.

A: The German Federal government welcomes the reform process in both the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China without wanting to draw comparisons between them.

The starting points, circumstances and problems faced are too different for comparisons to be drawn. Besides, the countries concerned are two large, sovereign, independent states.

Reforms in the socialist states present an opportunity for system-opening cooperation, in which both East and West must have an interest.

States that open up domestically and externally are better and more predictable partners. We can make a big contribution tothe success of these reforms by being ready to cooperate in all sectors — economics, technology, the arts and education.

These reforms give people not only *economic benefit but help in individual* development and give them more say in governing.

Economic relations must be modernised as part of this. That includes a reduction of Cocom restrictions to what is absolutely essential.

The Bonn government promotes cooperation in all these sectors by its policy of peace, of balance, of understanding and of disarmament. This improves the political mood for reform in the socialist states.

Q: The question to be asked here is whether confidence in the Soviet Union's peaceful intentions is sufficient to justify wide-ranging assistance. On conventional disarmament, for instance, there has been little more than declarations of intent.

Is the hope principle paramount in Bonn's efforts to influence the progress *of disarmament via stronger trade ties?*

A: Everything must now be done to ensure that the Vienna CSCE review conference paves the way for talks on conventional disarmament.

No-one wants or can be allowed to base today's security on tomorrow's expectations. We pursue a realistic policy and I am convinced of the Soviet leaders' desire for peaceful development of the situation in Europe and for disarmament and arms control.

Since Mr Gorbachov came to office there have been important and fundamental changes and improvements in Soviet foreign and security policy, with words being followed by action.

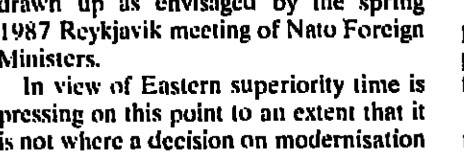
It includes the Soviet approval of spot checks that enabled the Stockholm conference *on confidence- and security-building measures* to be a success.

It also includes Soviet approval of the double zero solution as proposed by the West for medium-range missiles.

The aim must be to replace confrontation by cooperation and disarmament. Mr Gorbachov's policy gives a chance to arrive at a European peace system such as the West has repeatedly proposed since the 1967 Harmel Report.

In security policy terms our aim must now, via the deterrent net, the *ultima ratio* safety net, be to spread an additional





network of new, cooperative structures of military security. We will thereby reduce the risks that would result from relying solely on the nuclear deterrent.

Q: What disarmament opportunities and disarmament necessities do you envisage?

A: East-West relations and Western disarmament targets must be determined by Nato Foreign Ministers when they meet in December.

Conventional stability is the central security problem in Europe and the problem we must now work on.

The Franco-German summit in Bonn reaffirmed *that we fully agree* with France on this issue, as on others.

The West wants to arrive at a balance *of power at a clearly lower* level by means of asymmetrical disarmament and to eliminate on both sides the ability to launch a surprise attack and a ground-*gaining offensive.*

That will mean the Soviet Union cutting back more on armaments than the West; it will also require the East to switch to a defensive defence doctrine.

I have no doubt that the East's is serious when it says its ideas are similar to the West's on conventional disarmament. That is why I am confident about these talks.

The West's conventional disarmament concept must head the agenda at the December meeting of Nato Foreign Ministers.

It is equally important for us to reaffirm at this conference our determination *to agree on a world ban on chemical weapons* at the Geneva talks.

In principle the East has agreed to the extremely far-reaching Western verification proposals on chemical weapons. There must be no further demands from any quarter that might make it more difficult to reach agreement.

Unlimited armament does not ensure unlimited security, whereas balanced mutual disarmament does lead to greater security.

We don't want to make prior concessions that detract from our own security: what we want is to arrive at greater security by means of gradual disarmament.

That is why offsetting disarmament in one sector by a fresh arms build-up in another sector is out of the question. It would create fresh instability and start a fresh arms race.

The double zero solution, for instance, has established greater security. Any attempt to introduce a replacement for medium-range nuclear missiles where they are not yet banned by treaty arrangements would undermine the first nuclear disarmament agreement in history.

That is out of the queistion. What we *need is to include all nuclear weapons in* the disarmament process. That is why we endorse the superpowers' efforts to negotiate a 50-per-cent reduction in strategic systems.

It is also why we feel there is an urgent need for a Western negotiating position on short-range nuclear missiles to be drawn up as envisaged by the spring 1987 Reykjavik meeting of Nato Foreign Ministers.

In view of Eastern superiority time is pressing on this point to an extent that it is not where a decision on modernisation is concerned.

Work is also in progress on an overall Nato concept. Short-range missiles are, in any case, of least importance for deterrent strategy.

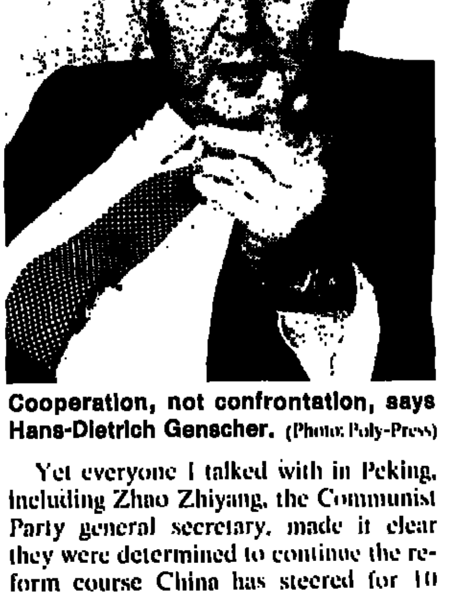
Nuclear weapons serve the purpose of preventing war. They thus fulfil a political function. Any other viewpoint leads down the path toward thinking in terms of warfare scenarios.

Q: Yet what will happen if reform policies fail in Moscow and Peking. Mr Gorbachov seems to be in firm control in the Kremlin, but what is the situation in Peking?

Did you gain the impression during your talks in China that continuity will be ensured once Deng Hsiaoping, now 84, is *no longer a linchpin of Chinese policy?*

A: The success of our visit to Moscow reaffirmed the conviction that Mr Gorbachov does not just take his reform policy seriously but that the process has now developed a dynamism of its own.





Cooperation, not confrontation, says Hans-Dietrich Genscher. (Photo: Poly-Press)

Yet everyone I talked with in Peking, including Zhao Zhiyang, the Communist Party general secretary, made it clear they were determined to continue the reform course China has steered for 10 years.

The Chinese leaders are, incidentally, working on the assumption that the process of reform is irreversible elsewhere and not just in their own country.

They are convinced that the process of reform in all socialist states is essential, irresistible and irreversible — subject, of course, to different conditions and circumstances.

That is my view too even though readiness for reform differs substantially in individual socialist states.

Q: Europe is in the process of establishing a common internal market and creating a new field of economic and political force.

So Europe will be a source of dynamic development. Will this have beneficial or detrimental effects on states where economic structures are, by our standards, still inadequate?

A: Completion of the European internal market will activate *the international* economy's largest growth reserve. The Federal Republic of Germany guarantees a *European Community geared* to international economic cooperation.

We want openness and cooperation as being in our own vital interest. For East-West cooperation in Europe a high-powered European Community will be a major partner in the reform policies pursued by the socialist states.

That is why development of the European Community presents a major opportunity of eliminating East-West differences.

Q: France and Germany are the mainstays of this new field of force in Europe. Do they have a special part to play in a community that will gain in attraction as a result of the internal market?

Or, put in different terms, are their landlords, tenants and sub-tenants in the European house?

A: In Europe as we envisage it nothing but the principle of equality can apply. France and the Federal Republic of Germany are merely doing their European responsibility justice.

They are doing so in respect of both integration within the European Community and East-West relations.

We want to see the European Community develop in the direction of a European Union, which means we don't just want to establish a common internal market.

We want to establish a common social, technological and monetary zone within the European Community and to stead-

Continued on page 5.

■ PERSPECTIVE

German navy's task: to rule the waves in Baltic approaches

Old admirals, wallowing in nostalgia, think that the German navy, the Bundesmarine, has too few destroyers and frigates. Big fleets and big oceans, *that is what a navy is all about. Sometimes,* they even mutter about economic factors.

But in this day and age, the reality is something else. The Bundesmarine's strategic role in Nato is not to protect Atlantic sea routes like a "blue water" navy or to show the flag worldwide. The Americans, British and Dutch do that. It is merely to control the Baltic approaches.

That is why the German Navy is not attached to Suclant, the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, in Norfolk, Va. It forms part of the Northern Europe Command in Kolsas, Denmark, and is subject to Saceur, the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, in Mons, Belgium.

In connection with the public debate on a deployment of the Bundesmarine outside so-called Nato territory or an off-set role in the Mediterranean even the Federal Republic's Nato allies often tend to forget this strategic role, say German naval command staff officers in Glücksburg.

The Bundesmarine, they say, is strong enough to perform its strategic role. It is partly misjudged because the Bundesmarine has fewer big ships, consisting mainly *of smaller craft and a substantial fleet* air arm.

This is largely due to geographical necessities in the Baltic, yet who pays much attention to the many smaller craft?

Next to no-one is said to realise that the Bundeswehr has the second-largest *naval air force in the West, second only* to the United States.

Its 120-odd Tornado fighter bombers have taken over from Lockheed Starfighters and roughly equal in strength the number of planes Nato has in Mönchengladbach in the Rhineland for in-depth containment purposes.

The Bundesmarine's operational task is to control the Baltic approaches:

- It must stop enemy forces from passing through the Skagerrak or the Kattegat.
- It must prevent amphibious landings on the Danish islands or behind the lines of German and Danish forces assigned *the role of defending Jutland.*
- It must also rule out any use of the Baltic by the Soviet Union as a route for reinforcements.

The Red Army needs the Baltic because the capacity of the few roads and the three railway routes through Poland to the Central European front is limited.

The sea route is also a convenient option should Poland prove unreliable in any way.

Above all, the Soviet Union would need to breach the Baltic approaches *early in the event of armed hostilities.*

It would not want to send units of the Baltic fleet out into the Atlantic where they would fall foul of local Western air supremacy. The purpose would be *to enable Northern* fleet ships in need of maintenance or repair to return to the Baltic for servicing. Almost all Northern fleet ships were built by Baltic yards, and repair facilities at naval bases on the Kola peninsula, near Murmansk, are limited. *Unless* Moscow is prepared to accept the permanent loss of many Northern fleet ships (and *substantial losses, damage and wear* and tear would soon be inevitable in the event of hostilities) it must control the Baltic approaches.

The Baltic states

NORTH SEA
SWEDEN
FINLAND
Helsinki
Leningrad
Stockholm
DENMARK
BALTIC
Copenhagen
USSR
Hamburg
FED. REP. GERMANY
GDR
POLAND
Berlin
Warsaw
300km
INDEX FUNK 2918

The Bundesmarine plans to perform its role in keeping with the principles of forward defence, forward meaning to operate not along a geographical line but where the enemy is, the high seas being open to all.

As far forward as possible, in the eastern Baltic, initial attempts would be undertaken to upset enemy concentration and transports.

In the eastern Baltic, where the enemy is particularly strong, only naval ***forces capable of holding their own can*** operate.

They are the Tornado fighter bomber and the Bundesmarine's 24 small and virtually untraceable submarines.

In the shallow waters of the Baltic submarines are hard to trace, as Sweden's regular difficulties with "unknown" submarines annually show.

German submarines are extremely small and made of anti-magnetic steel. They are virtually impossible to combat.

Naval command officers say their range advantage over surface craft is increasing as new torpedos are commis-*sioned. The Tornados with their two* Kormoran missiles each have an enormous range.

They *roughly correspond* to the French Exocet, and how many targets are there, when all is said and done, for the roughly 400 Kormorans in service in the Baltic?

Aircraft and submarines can also mine the approaches to enemy ports and enemy shipping routes. There are no command or coordination difficulties in the combined deployment of aircraft and submarines in forward defence.

The two weapon systems will not up-*set each other. They can fight anything* in sight on the surface of the Baltic. All surface craft will be enemy ships.

Enemy craft that nonetheless approached the German or Danish coasts would then be bombarded by flotillas of motor torpedo boats. The Bundesmarine has 40 modern units. There are the Danish boats too. Between them they have 160 Exocets and would surely be most effective.

There are so many of these small boats stationed round the Danish islands that they can hardly be traced, let alone effectively combated. "They're as safe here as in the bosom of Abraham," says the Bundesmarine's Vice-Admiral Rehder.

What is more, they will operate be-*tween and behind minefields.* The approaches will be blocked by 5,000 mines to rule out amphibious landings along suitable stretches of coastline.

The main role of Nato motor torpedo boats and minesweepers will be to lay these mines, which they are entitled to do in their own territorial waters in the event of actual or impending hostilities.

Minesweeping will be of minor importance, at least in the Baltic.

Admiral Rehder makes it clear that the Bundesmarine's role will be to its allies' benefit. Guarding the Baltic approaches will be left almost entirely to the German Navy, and allied reinforcements are both *unlikely and* unnecessary, or so it would seem.

The Bundesmarine is more likely to be asked *to lend a helping hand* elsewhere. Maybe, in connection with a German naval role to offset operations outside Nato territory, it would be as well to remember that the Bundesmarine's main objective must be to fulfil its Nato role.

Siegfried Thielbeer

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 October 1988)

Continued from page 4

ily increase policy coordination so as to arrive at a common foreign policy too.

The European Community proves the existence of new thinking in politics. It is a victory over national egoism, over an approach based on power politics and over prejudice.

There are, of course, still many obstacles and, above all, reservations to surmount within the Community, but the future belongs to those who aim to bring member-states closer together on the basis of a clear perspective and not to those who oppose the process of integration on the basis of outmoded ideas.

We expect all European Community *member-states to do justice to the responsibilities* to which they are committed by treaty terms.

When I refer to the opportunity of cooperation between East and West I mean that we want to establish a European peace system extending from the Atlantic to the Urals. In this peace system the European Community will be an important structural feature.

Not even decades of separation have transformed one Europe into two. The signals today point toward rapprochement, not alienation.

Bodo Schulte

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 7 November 1988)

■ THE ECONOMY

A budget that is unlikely to hit the best-seller lists

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel says that the country's improved economic performance is due more to luck than to good management.

Vogel says the most important factors have been what has been happening on the oil and energy markets.

The government, of course, maintains that it has been doing the right things. Certainly, the position is much more complicated than Vogel would have it.

It is true that further drops in oil and energy prices have stimulated the economy. But this stimulation has been applied to an economy that on the whole was in a better condition than it had been for years.

Reductions in public spending and tax reliefs from 1986 onwards — and these are credit entries in the government's balance sheet — have contributed to this just as much as a moderate wages policy and a degree of stabilisation of the exchange rate.

The Bonn government has had luck, but it is also profiting now from fundamental decisions of the past few years.

Nevertheless the budget for 1989 is anything but a great success. The massive budget report is not going to be a financial bestseller. Among the series of budgets which Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg has presented to the Bundestag, the 1989 budget is the one most open to attack, even if the figures do not reveal this at first glance.

There will again be something to be put right over the next few years.

The most noticeable is the 5.5 per cent increase in the budget as compared with 1988. That is a sin, which is unpardonable even if special factors are taken into account.

Of course there are special charges in the budget such as increased grants to the Federal Labour Office in Nuremberg and structural aid for the *Länder*. They do not just come out of thin air but are the result of government policies.

They are then part of the budget in total and its increase, especially as they are charges which will not simply disappear over the next few years.

There is also no reason to crow about the fact that next year new government borrowing will be kept down to DM28bn, markedly below that of the current year and lower than the figure that was proposed for 1989.

Central government is here benefiting from higher tax revenues, stemming from favourable developments in the economy, but primarily from the higher general tax on consumption which will apply from next year.

The Board of Experts for the Assessment of Overall Economic Trends, the Five Wise Men, were right to complain that the success in consolidating the budget, that is the reduction in new borrowing, was not the result of less government spending, but the result of higher taxes. The government is taking the easy way out.

What is aggravating as well is that the limitation of new borrowing to DM28bn is still too high. Kohl's government is learning what Schmidt's government had to learn — how difficult it is, even in an economically good year, to reduce excessive new borrowing.

The Opposition of the time, then the CDU and CSU, criticised this vehemently. They should not be surprised when the present Opposition, the SPD, chimes in in the same way.

The Five Wise Men have also rebuked the government that in the course of their present period in office, "subsidies have not been reduced, as it was said they would be, but have been considerably increased."

No doubt some of them will disappear through tax advantages due to tax reform. But there has been no success in making comparable reductions with direct financial support.

The budget committee got quickly caught in the subsidies quagmire at the consultation stage. Cuts of DM500m had been announced, but that figure has become less than DM100m. Some subsidies have actually increased.

The Airbus affair, for instance, means greater involvement for industry, but hardly any financial relief for Bonn. There has been an increase in subsidies to the coal industry, which cannot be *maintained for long. Subsidies to the coal* industry could soon bring Bonn into conflict with the European Community.

Among all the glowing figures that are produced about the economy, employment *remains in the shadows*. There has been a drop in unemployment indeed, and what is particularly encouraging, there has been a reduction of unemployment among young people.

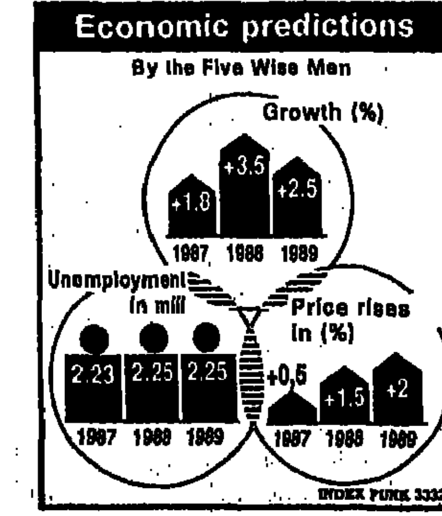
Nevertheless the total unemployment figure, and particularly the number of long-term unemployed, is still too high, particularly after several years of economic upswing.

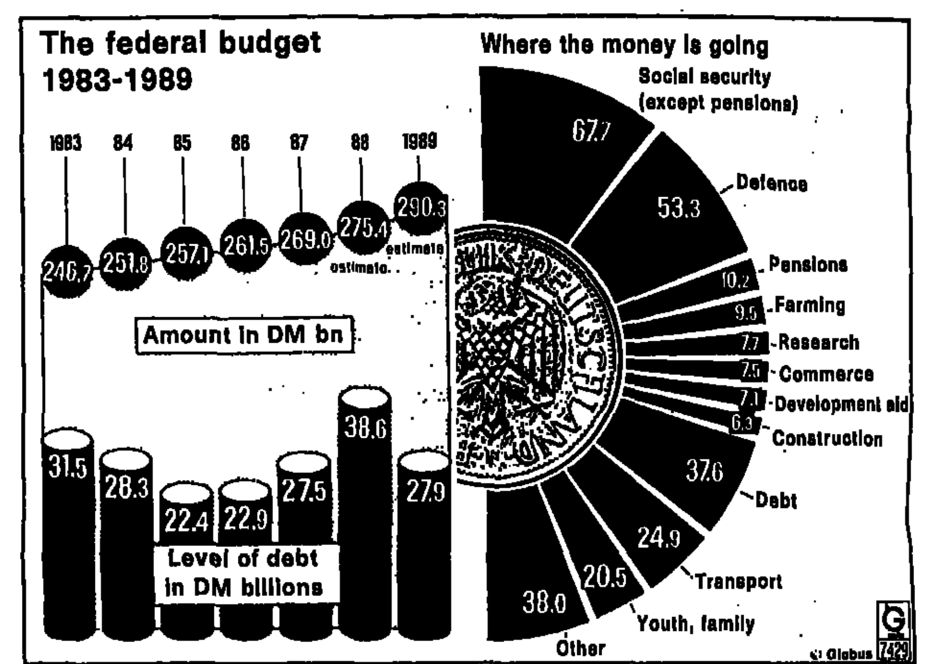
The possibilities of influencing the labour market directly through the budget are limited. Even those, who advocated government spending — financed through higher taxes or increased gov*ernment borrowing — seem to have now* become less enthusiastic for this way of tackling the unemployment problem.

However, the indirect effects, which can stem from finance and budget policies, *are more lasting*.

The dynamism of the economy, and with that employment, is dependent on the volume and make-up of Bonn's budget. In this respect the budget for 1989 *leaves a lot to be desired*.

Heinz Murmann
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 23 November 1988)





Economists' report: the good, the bad and the indifferent

The annual report on the economy by the group of economists known as the Five Wise Men has triggered the *usual reactions in government*.

The government claims the Five have agreed with what it has been doing. It sees the report as confirming its economic and financial policies.

There are several passages in the massive report which justify what the government says. But, on decisive points, it is critical.

The Five write that, since the Bonn coalition came to power, too little has been done to make Germany's position in international competition sufficiently attractive.

The Five clearly say that there is no reason to be content with what has been achieved. The government has not found an appropriate answer to this.

At first it seems reasonable to pass over the criticisms. Is the moderate, but regular economic upswing not going to continue during the seventh year of the present government? Will the expected growth rate for the year of 3.5 per cent, the highest for ten years, not be achieved?

Didn't the professors say that during the life of this government probably a million new jobs will be created? Did they dispute that the export surplus for 1989 of an almost fantastic DM133bn was not proof of the German economy's ability to compete?

Naturally the Five Wise Men have taken note of this data. They are quite prepared to acknowledge positive results and developments. They do not insinuate that the Federal Republic is a poor place to set up in business.

On the contrary. They praise the high qualifications of the labour force, the efficiency of the country's businessmen and the country's splendid infrastructure.

But they fear that stocktaking of this sort leads to indolence, when in future greater efforts will be needed to maintain the country's leading position internationally.

The Five see that there is a lot of catching up to be done in the preparations for new challenges. They blame Bonn that insufficient action is being taken to follow up the government's fine words.

In all the reports from the Five over past years there has been criticism of "subventionitis." The professors were praised for this, but government subsidies have increased.

The Five complain that the govern*ment has not had the courage to relax* the brakes on economic growth, opening up the market to new competition, for instance, and dismantling many rules and regulations that are applied in *many sectors of trade and industry*.

But rights interested parties claim are indispensible are doggedly defended.

The Five said that economic policies must catch up with serious shortfalls. Every year they have warned that savings must be made in less important or damaging expenditures in the budget.

They point out that the Economic Affairs Minister and Finance Minister put *on record that all sectors of politics* must try hard to make the Federal Republic as attractive a place as possible for setting up in business. Then almost simultaneously these ministries protest *when the Bundestag's budget committee* cuts subsidies.

Politicians prefer to react to criticisms with the argument that in view of the results their activities cannot be that bad. *In saying this they lightly pass over* the fact that no-one really knows how this year's powerful, unexpected economic growth rate came about.

The Five deceived themselves last year about real developments. They were then surprised at the course of events and could offer no explanations that were totally satisfactory for their mistaken predictions.

It is true that the economy did better last year than was predicted or expected.

It is also true that the high growth rate did nothing to diminish the high unemployment figure.

Politicians involved in economic affairs and finance must accept the charge from the Five that more growth could have been achieved, if the government had had the courage and strength to introduce measures that supposedly would have been unpopular.

The tasks for the future are also described in the Five's report, and here again the government commented that it felt it had been upheld by the Five, whose recommendations showed they concurred with government.

Once more it is to be hoped that this view will result in action.

Frank J. Eichhorn
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 19 November 1988)

When European ministers responsible for aviation held a crisis meeting at Frankfurt airport at the end of October, they had precious little to do with the very thing that had brought them together — flight delays.

Their aircraft were given priority to dash through the overcrowded European skies to Frankfurt. But at least the meeting did indicate that there is a recognition of the need to tackle the problems of civil aviation.

The air over Europe is thick with aircraft. Traffic in the past 20 months has increased 25 per cent and the system threatens to descend into chaos.

The limits to capacity have been reached much more quickly than expected. Alone in 1987, there were 300,000 more flights than in 1986. Now it is being predicted that, by the year 2,000, double the number of passengers will be carried per year — 540 million. The big increase last year meant that 39 per cent of all flights were delayed.

The planned border-free Europe of 1992 now appears more like a threat than a promise. Detlef Winter, an official at the Bonn Transport Ministry, says: "The talk in Brussels about liberalisation is irresponsible. We agree that before the skies are opened up, flight safety must be improved."

Some concrete proposals did emerge at the Frankfurt airport meeting. Bonn's Transport Minister, Jürgen Warnke, even talked of "a major breakthrough". After decades of getting nowhere — not with technology, not with regulations, not with airspace, not with nothing — the idea of Eurocontrol was rediscovered.

Eurocontrol was formed 25 years ago to coordinate European air traffic, but it has not been a success.

■ EUROPEAN AIRSPACE

Tetchy controllers rebel beneath congested skies

DIE ZEIT

In the 1970s, the idea of setting up a central engineering bureau under its authority got nowhere because of the national jealousies of France, Holland and Britain.

But now, ministers decided at Frankfurt to plan a central control centre where all flights in Europe would be logged and coordinated. But there has been no talk of a single, unified traffic-control system. It is said that France doesn't want to surrender its sovereignty.

The Bonn Transport Ministry, tired of the hour-long delays and cancellations in the summer, at least has tried to limit the chaos within Germany itself. Since 1 July, in breach of international regulations, 70 internal German routes have been given priority over international flights.

At the end of August, Herr Warnke and the Defence Minister, Rupert Scholz, announced more good news: parts of airspace reseved for military flights were being made available for civilian flights. This would include a corridor across the lower Rhine for use by trans-Atlantic flights.

But both air-traffic controllers and the pilots' association, Cockpit, say this *is merely toying with the problem*. Ralph Riedle, head of the German air-traffic controllers' association, says: "Nothing has really been improved. When the normal routes are jammed *and we want to send an aircraft through* a military zone, we have to make a telephone call to our colleagues in the Luftwaffe to ask for permission — and that is for each jet. We just don't have the time."

The opening of an air corridor called Zoulu 75 was announced with great Press ballyhoo by both ministers. The corridor runs along the Dutch border to *the North Sea and is intended to handle* up to six transatlantic flights an hour from Frankfurt.

But the prescribed altitude along the corridor is between 8,000 metres and *9,000 metres (between about 26,000* feet and 30,000 feet) which a heavily laden Boeing 747 jumbo simply cannot climb to so soon after takeoff.

So Lufthansa and other carriers are *forced to carry on as before by using the* crowded airspace along the southern English coast.

These hectic efforts to alleviate the chaos only demonstrate how little the *Bonn Transport Ministry was prepared* for the air-travel boom.

It will take years before the system is reorganised. And the traffic will continue to grow

A buffer in the system is the human factor in the form of air-traffic controllers. They are the only ones who can put more aircraft through the system, and they are doing it.

Peter Feddern is a controller in Munich: "Before, we were sometimes able to lean back from the screen for a moment. But not any more. The sky up there is full. There is no room left. We're spending our time flat out with 200 things to do in the fast lane."

If two aircraft accidentally pass closer than the five nautical miles laid down, the controller is liable for a warning. Three Munich controllers have been suspended so far. If there is a collision, a controller could well end up in prison. They are all afraid.

A controller at Frankfurt told the weekly illustrated magazine, *Stern*, about his fears, and no one at Munich contradicted him.

One Munich controller says that at peak periods, more controllers are throwing up their hands after an hour or so at the screen and saying they can't take any more. They are replaced on the shift. "Everyone understands them. There is no reason to be ashamed of it."

Herr Riedle, of the controllers' association, would not recommend it as a career: "The work itself is interesting, but there it ends: badly paid, shift work, 30 years of constant stress, and very little recognition."

It takes more than four years before a would-be controller gets a businessadministration diploma at university. Controllers say that for months at a time they swot up general business administration, "knowledge ballast that is never again needed."

By contrast, airlines train their pilots in just two and a half years. Training is similar but more complex for a pilot. Beginner controllers earn about 2,220 marks a month, about as much as a Lufthansa stewardess earns after a six-week-course.

Top pay rate is 5,000 marks a month, but that is only reached shortly before *being pensioned off at the age of 53*.

From July, a special allowance of 280 marks a month has been paid. But Riedle can only laugh: "It was meant well, but it doesn't help the under-payment situation." Air-traffic controllers see themselves as a performance-oriented elite who have been forced into the corset-like embrace of a civil service career structure. That is why there are worries about a shortage of recruits.

A spokesman for the federal institution for air safety, Wolfgang Ohl, says: "Qualified young people who pass our tough acceptance paper often try at the same time to get accepted for pilot training with Lufthansa — where they earn three times as much."

There will be a manpower shortage next year because many controllers will retire; and there are not enough to take their places because the ministry hasn't trained enough. Some years, no controllers at all were trained.

Support for the controllers is coming from Lufthansa and, lately, from members of parliament.

Lufthansa fears what might happen if action is not taken. In 1987, its aircraft spent 5,200 hours in holding pattern over Munich, Frankfurt and Dusseldorf at a cost of 50 million marks in fuel. In the first nine months of this year another 64 million marks worth of fuel was burnt in circles.

Lufthansa together with airport authorities and charter firms has now formed a think tank to analyse the problems and come up with ideas.

The controllers' see one solution Privatisation. Heinrich Beder, Lufthansa's traffic director, says: "Air-traffic control run by private-enterprise would be able to pay controllers on merit.

"The new company would be able to raise cash for urgent technical improvement on the capital markets." Some of the radar equipment was bought 20 years ago.

But it is important that air control in its entirety is not removed from state control. The Federal government could have a majority holding of the new company's share capital.

A possible example to follow is in Switzerland, where since 1921, air con*trol has been in the hands of* Radio Schweiz AG, which has now changed its name to Swiss Control. Its shares are not traded. The state holds 70 per cent; Swissair 5 per cent; and the rest by air*port authorities and others*.

The 300 controllers have a no-strike agreement and are paid more than twice as much as German controllers. And this year, Swiss Control will even make *a profit*.

But one German official says almost defiantly: "The Swiss can do what they like. Air safety in this country remains a sovereign matter."

An SPD specialist, Klaus Daubertshäuser, already discerns a change in thinking in all Parliamentary parties: "The problem of sovereignty is not now being looked at so narrowly."

There was also a feeling that, at last, military and civil air control should be brought into the same system.

He says: "If we can't manage to form a unified air-safety system in Europe on the lines of the Eurocontrol idea, then the outlook will be indeed black for aviation after it is liberalised."

And Herr Riedle: "Something just has to be done. The atmosphere among the boys is worse than it has ever been."

Burkhard Kieker
(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 11 November 1988)

■ FINANCE

Credit agencies: with a Schufa-ing here and a Schimmelpfeng-ing there

Credit is based on trust and reliability — on the belief that loans will be repaid. *But the demands of commerce* are such that these alone are not enough: lenders prefer controls.

In the 15th century, Venice's parliament, the Council of Ten, produced a list of insolvent and unreliable merchants.

When lending increased heavily at the beginning of industrialisation in the 19th century, the demand for reliable information grew.

The first operation similar to a credit agency opened in England in 1820 to give information about bankruptcies and other financial data.

In the United States, suppliers came to regard establishing credit-worthiness as essential before supplying.

Professional credit agencies were founded and a new type of sleuth was born, the credit investigator.

They operated all over the country and after a personal visit to a company they transmitted their reports to headquarters in New York. One of them was later President of the United States — Abraham Lincoln.

In the 19th century credit agencies sprang up in Germany: Schimmelpfeng in 1872; Bürgel in 1885. They still exist.

In the middle of the 1920s consumer credit was mainly offered by traders, to a lesser extent by industry and public utilities.

In Berlin, the electrical supply company, BEWAG, was faced with the problem of how to increase power sales during the daytime. The increased sales of household equipment such as refrigerators, vacuum cleaners and other items was exploited to do this.

To this end BEWAG developed a credit system to increase sales, named "Elektrissima."

A cooperation agreement was drawn up between household equipment manufacturers and the company supplying electricity — the meter readers from the electricity company, BEWAG, collected the instalments for the goods supplied on hire purchase.

This meant that BEWAG was very well informed about the ability to pay of many of its customers.

The idea of credit protection was born. In 1927 Schufa (Schutzgemeinschaft für Allgemeine Kreditsicherung) was established in Berlin, a protection society for general credit insurance. The *original members included the city gas* works, AEG, and the Berlin Association of Special Businesses.

There were soon similar organisations in other German cities, in Dortmund (1930), Düsseldorf and Cologne (1931) and from 1932 in Hamburg, Bad Kreuznach, Mannheim, Frankfurt and Munich.

At the end of the Second World War, during the reconstruction period, the demand for credit in industry, the public services and in private households was enormous. This led to the establishment of a new Schufa in Dortmund in 1948.

Today there are 13 regional Schufa organisations, all registered as private *limited companies*.

The shareholders are banks, savings banks, agricultural credit banks, instalment loan institutions, retail traders and mail order houses.

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES
SONNTAGSBLATT

The basic idea has remained the same. The national Schufa organisation's annual report said: "Schufa's duty is to provide its principles with information to protect against losses in credit business with consumers and at the same time to warn borrowers about getting too far into debt."

The basic principle of Schufa's work is mutual information. Schufa is under *obligation to provide information* but Schufa's principles are also obliged to provide information for Schufa's data bank. Every year the volume of information increases.

From 1955 to 1986 Schufa provided more than 500 million items of information; last year alone approximately 30 million items.

Eckart van Hooven, a member of the Deutsche Bank executive board, said that every organisation concerned with consumer credit, banks, the retail trade and consumers themselves, had a lot to thank Schufa for, and he enthused about the low rate of write-offs in the consumer credit business.

"They have also fulfilled well the second aspect of their responsibilities, advising borrowers about over-borrowing. When praises are being sung about the considerable sense of responsibility for *repaying loans among German consumers* one should not forget to praise Schufa's educational activities."

Many consumers find it hard to see the "educational" side of Schufa. The talking points are the "Black List," the "card index of credit offenders," an increasing awareness of data protection from "snoopers" and "a lack of data protection."

For decades Schufa has collected everything that can be learned about the solvency of citizens in the Federal Republic for the benefit of Schufa shareholders, the lenders.

Schufa files include details ranging from harmless giro accounts, to hire purchase-leasing agreements with the amount involved, the duration of the lease and when it began, to securities with the amount, period of the loan, when repayment instalments began, name of the borrower and date of birth, to cheque card frauds, when bankruptcy proceedings were started and foreclosures.

Only recently have officials, companies and courts of law concerned themselves with the legitimacy of Schufa data. Who controls the credit controllers? Who ensures that the private credit data is not misused?

In principle the Federal Supreme Court is in agreement with the transmission of certain data to credit information systems.

Supreme Court judges ruled: "*It is* essential that the bank transmitting information has carefully considered the meaningfulness and legitimacy of each individual statement, and that credit systems are so organised that the stored data provides a picture that is as up-to-date as possible of a person's credit-worthiness and that the information is distributed only to partners involved, who have a justifiable interest in being informed about the credit-worthiness of the person involved."

Schufa went through its membership lists and sent out almost 2,000 withdrawal notices to housing companies, real estate agents, car dealers, drinks wholesalers, schools offering correspond*ence courses and removals operators.*

These companies, which have considerable interest in the credit-worthiness of their customers, felt themselves to be discriminated against, and turned to the Federal Monopolies Commission.

Their objections had little effect — only credit institutions and businesses that offer cash or goods credit for consumers can be represented in Schufa.

Borrowers also would like to know what information Schufa has stored away about them. Under data protec*tion legislation Schufa provides* the individual with information, either in writing or after a personal visit.

There has been no lack of interest in learning what Schufa knew about them. In 1986 alone more than 180,000 citizens wanted to know what was in their Schufa file.

Horst Peter Wickel

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt Hamburg, 20 November 1988)

Investment sharks move in on the small-time saver

About 22 million wage- and salary earners in Germany take advantage of a savings plan subsidised by employers and *backed by tax concessions*. A typical scheme involves 936 marks a year which is invested over either six or seven years. Employees can invest in a mortage bank, leave the money in a savings account, or invest in any one of several other approved ways. Now it seems the sharks have found a loophole in the legislation and high-powered salesmen waving glossy brochures promising impossible rates of return are creaming off millions every month and putting at risk an area of saving that had always been regarded as ideal for the small man. Some estimates say that about 150 million marks worth of shady business is being done every month. Norbert Sturm takes up the story for the Munich daily, the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*.

Germany's investment sharks are hunting for new prey. This time they are not going for high-salaried doctors or lawyers but for the average wage-earner who invests in the state-backed savings scheme.

More than 22 million workers are involved in the scheme. Many are likely to find that, at the end of the six- or *seven-year investment period*, that their supposedly profit-earning investment — invested outside their employer firm — is worth nothing.

The Bundestag's finance committee has decided on changes to come into effect with tax reform in 1990, which should prevent abuses, but it remains to be seen whether white-collar crimi*nals do not find loop-holes to make a* killing.

Experts believe that profit-sharing certificates, which are excluded from protective provisions, could be misused.

It only became obvious to politicians in Bonn that hardship threatened savers after reliable information sources had drawn attention to the deplorable state of affairs. Nevertheless fraud was only established in a few cases.

By only looking at the illogical, full-colour brochures one can see that these gangs of high-pressure salesmen are out to cheat savers.

Although clients invest more than DM5,600 during the life of their capi*tal formation contract*, they are *also* promised equally high profits. This alone is unrealistic.

The individual investment sellers' false statements that a commission of DM1,500 would be paid for every new customer, turns the whole business into a financial fairy-tale.

The small investor's cash would have to be *placed in investments* that would triple in value to support such pipe-dreams.

But so far there have been no complaints from deceived savers. But that means nothing, for it is not obvious to investors at first that they have been cheated.

The Law Promoting Capital Formation for Employees includes a seven-year period of suspension, so only after this period could the client see that nothing remained of his cash.

Although in individual cases every client only risks DM936 per year, this adds up to DM21bn with the investment sums from 22 million potential clients under captial formation legislation.

According to information sources well-versed in the business slippery agents are concluding tens of thousands of deals per month.

The volume of placings is correspondingly high. Experts believe that this business is attracting DM150m per month.

This means that in a period of five months slippery businessmen have done more harm to German investors than the notorious Bernie Cornfeld *did in his* whole career as head of the IOS.

Investors lost DM750m in the IOS financial scandal, a sum that pales to insignificance against this new, crooked business.

The Bonn government has done nothing to help, for the 5th Capital Formation Act does not prevent possible abuses.

Almost two years ago the Bundestag approved legislation for capital formation, to put into effect two meaningful requests.

First, medium-sized firms, plagued with a lack of capital, would be given the possibilities to re-finance themselves more effectively with the aid of new capital formation principles.

Second, as an incentive to save in productive wealth, the opportunity was opened to workers as financial backers to take part in their company's profits.

The unexpected appearance of just those capital formation funds, which

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■ INNOVATION

A song in the air and another in a wet nappy

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Two hundred and twenty exhibitors with more than 300 inventions in their luggage turned up for this year's Inventors Fair in Nuremberg.

Most hired the smallest stands possible and presentation was in most cases simple and even amateurish.

Making an appearance at this international fair does not have to cost too much. But neither is commercial success assured.

There was no lack of ideas. And there were many well-informed visitors. Many companies sent along observers to ferret for ideas that might be useful.

Many ideas were imaginative and ingenious. One tackled the problem of opening envelopes.

It is said that there are people who can get *cheques out of letters without* damaging the envelope.

Asked how the trick worked, inventor Johann Strack, from Hof, pointed to the upper edge of the gummed flap of a normal, commercial envelope.

It was clear to see that the gum did not extend as far as the fold, leaving a small gap in the closed envelope as a *weak point*.

There is a reason for this opening. A paper knife can be inserted in it so that the letter can be easily opened. But the *gap could be used for other purposes.*

Strack had his idea 10 years ago. It came to him because opening letters irritated him.

He said that he sometimes opened letters with his car keys and hurt himself on the key ring.

His envelope is gummed up as far as the fold. The envelope is shut tightly but it can be opened easily by pulling a thread of cotton or artificial material. Strack kills two birds with one stone here: ease of opening the envelope and security.

He was confident that there would be interest from industry and that people he had talked to at the fair had been intrigued by it.

He would continue to work as an inventor and he would be at next year's fair.

Fritz Engelhardt, from Mühlhausen, in the Upper Palatinate confirmed that companies sent experienced people to look for new ideas.

He was displaying at Nuremberg a pneumatically-operated machine to extract Colorado beetles from potatoes. The machine disposes of the pest without chemicals.

They are extracted from the potatoes by air-pressure. The devise acts like a vacuum-cleaner. The beetles removed from the potatoes are collected in a sealed container. Günter Mieding comes from Remshalden near Stuttgart. In the spring he saw wine-growers with swollen hand joints, caused by having to bind up the vines.

This gave him the idea for an automatic binding machine.

He realised while he was fiddling about to develop the prototype machine he has available that it would also be suitable for binding up iron rods used in building, and its application with construction moulds for cement indicates that the invention will be even more successful.

His machine does the work ten times more quickly and gives protection from the ends of wire that is already on the vines.

There was also interest for the water-tight, enclosed hair-curler invented by Walter Rumez from Bretten.

When his invention is in service, neither hairdresser nor customer will come in touch with permanent wave *chemicals any more, for an electronical*ly-controlled pump will provide the individual curler with the liquid.

There is another advantage; the chemicals can be collected and will not end up in the sewerage system.

Inventor Hans Lorenz from Wilhemshaven seemed to be bubbling with ideas. He had concentrated on the deve*lopment of gripping pliers or pincers.* His first success were paper-collecting pincers for street-cleaners.

He has now developed gripping pliers that could be used to pick up the bottles and tin cans that he sees littering the countryside.

He also has pincers for picking pears and apples, which avoids tearing the *fruit from the trees, which is what har*vesting equipment has done until now.

*Unlike the other inventors at Nurem*berg Lorenz was not looking for a manufacturer for his devise. He was manufacturing himself. What he was looking for were customers.

Klaus-Peter Kolbatz from Berlin has developed warning equipment for *swimming pools, operated by under-wa*ter impulses. He has taken out a world-wide patent on his invention.

The equipment reacts to a child or a dog falling into the pool, but it ignores twigs that might get blown on the water surface.

Hans-Jürgen Chilinski, from Marl, had brought along an intersting invention. He was confidently displaying a bicycle pump with an integrated, strong ring padlock, that will do away with worries about loss or theft. Korean inventors created a sensation, not only because of the inventions they brought with them, but because of their completely incomprehensible explanations.

In one description the word for switch was used when lamp was *meant*.

A nappie which played music when it was wet was one of the more unusual Korean inventions.

There was also a car lighting system that dimmed as soon as an oncoming car appeared.

Schoolchildren from Fürstenzell showed that inventing can be fun for *young people. According to a leaflet the* aim of their inventing project was to *give the children* self-confidence and stimulate their creative potential. The results were astonishing.

They had on display a battery-operated snail fence with a solar re-charger, a devise for aiding blind people to orient themselves, a ski stick with built-in *screw-driver and a quick-tightening tool* for nuts and screws, which was something quite out of the ordinary among the schoolchildren's inventions.

The boy who invented it explained that he saw it as being of use in Formula I racing cars — the time for changing wheels could be drastically reduced with this tool.

Georg Küffner

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 November 1988)

Neat and curly. Permanent wave device insulates chemicals from both customer and hairdresser. (Photo: dpa)

Continued from page 8

only serve to enrich their managers, shows just how difficult the Bonn government has found it to bring its intentions into line with the German investment market.

The new participation in the investment list included in the Law Promoting Capital Formation of Employees as *sleeping shareholders was conceived* fundamentally as participation by workers in the companies where they worked.

The law nevertheless did not exclude sleeping participation in other firms, either directly or through investment funds.

Investment salesmen have exploited *this loop-hole in the DM936* Equity Fund to their own advantage.

They recruit investors with fabulous promises and they can then do what they want with the cash, for there is no legislation that applies any controls over them.

Even in their publicity prospectuses there is no mention of where the capital will be invested (Blind Pools). Shocked by warning voices, Bonn has decided to concede participation of the cornucopia of the capital formation concept only to the employer's company or the company over which the employer has control.

Investments outside the company will be excluded. It remains to be seen if that is sufficient as investment protection.

It cannot be assumed that legal protective measures will keep financial sharks away from their prey.

An explanatory campaign, directed straight at savers, would serve a useful purpose. But experience has shown that this communication bridge has given an imperfect understanding of the situa*tion.*

The previous lack of explanatory campaigns is why efforts to explain changes in the capital formation concept have done so badly. The situation has not got any better so far.

Norbert Sturm

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 11 November 1988)

■ FILMS

Drawing lessons from a burning school and rows of pupils on the march

The noise was deafening. The school's pupils were lined up in long rows, class after class. They began marching. On the walls, iron mill-wheels began turning.

A thousand voices roared out: "We don't need no education. We don't need no thought control." And then the school began to burn. The pupils' revolution had started.

It was the wildest film scene in the eight days of the Munich Film College's festival.

Wolfgang Längsfeld, head of the College and organiser of the festival, deliberately arranged it so that the lasting impression as hundreds of students from both East and the West departed for home was this very scene.

The deeper meaning of the scene was: free yourselves from your teachers and their coat-tails. Be radical and inventive, avoid adjustment merely for adjustment's sake.

The scene had another significance. It was a small tribute to British director Alan Parker, director of such films as *Fame* and *Birdy*. The scene was from his film *The Wall*.

Parker, 44, was invited to be the chairman of the student jury, which meets every year. He bravely had to sit through 128 student films; endure a special screening of *The Wall* and *Angel* that lasted until midnight; and give 60 interviews.

He said at the prize-giving ceremony that the films seemed to him more like 528 films than 128 and the eight days more like eight months.

This was rather a criticism of film festivals generally, and college film festivals in particular, than of the 24 short films bundled into 90 minutes.

But Parker said he had accepted the invitation to chair the jury immediately and was glad he had made the decision.

He said that all the films he had seen were interesting — and he knew the amount of effort and time and energy and inspiration needed to makes a film regardless of the quality of the result.

He told the students that they had a duty to cut the umbilical cord. But the European film had not been achieving much success internationally because for decades the life-blood had been squeezed out of it by intellectual standards which were too high.

Parker was a contradiction for the students. Here was a man who had never attended a film college. He learned his trade making advertising spots.

Film advertising has become an accepted part of the film industry and its demands are taught at film schools. Advertising films were shown at this festival.

The advertising programme was presented by the Royal College of Art, London: "Going Commercial" was a collection of various 30-second advertising spots.

All were all made with the typical British sense of humour including some examples of black humour.

For instance in a spot for the anti-smoking campaign when a smoker on an operating table is under the knife and a packet of cigarettes is extracted from his intestines. The number of people who have died from lung cancer annually is shown on the packet.

Frankfurter Allgemeine

It was said in Munich that these advertising spots were among the 10 best contributions to a competition organised by Lloyds Bank.

What is obvious is that young film-makers who make advertising spots are also keeping their eyes on potential sponsors for serious films — even serious film-makers look for commercial backers.

Film college budgets cannot keep pace with rising costs (in Britain budgets have even been reduced) so new sources of cash are being sought — with success.

The aim is to make college films that are attractive to a wider public and not merely exhibits for visitors day.

The college films at this festival were of a high technical standard, but complaints could be made that, despite the professionalism at almost all film colleges, good ideas do have difficulty getting through. Art, it seems, is finding the going more difficult now.

Students who have early learned all about the rough edges of life seem to have an advantage over others.

Wolfgang Länsfeld said: "82 per cent manage to leave us and go on to make a living from what they have learned here."

The films, shown 10 hours a day over the eight days differed enormously in character.

There was some wrangling about policy: Munich students, for instance, split opinion by saying that anyone who has shown films at (the well-known annual festival of) Hof should not be allowed here in Munich.

Perhaps this was the reason why film college students from the Federal Republic won no prizes for film material and camera work.

It has become almost an annual ritual awarding a prize to a Polish film. *Robak (The Worm)* by Mariusz Grzegorzek from Lodz, is made in black and white, like the films of all his predecessors. It was a film that had the audience holding its breath.

The domestic scenes of a catching game, filmed in slow motion, are shadows in which a cup is falling and breaking into pieces.

A child is punished and threatened by his father. He is told by his father that he will be destroyed from within at night by a worm.

The child's breakdown is illustrated in light and shadow, a reflection of the fate of all oppressed children.

The stage-management of the family history and the shots from archives of contemporary history were woven together with a rhythm that was similar to the heavy tolling of bells.

Most Polish college films have made an atmosphere of anxiety and threat their own. But they are the furthest away from (future) market requirements.

This film apart, there were films with punch lines, love stories and dreamy flashbacks aplenty.

In this respect Peter Welz from the Potsdam Film College made a pleasant impression. Last year he produced witty *Sonntagsidylle*, but this time he crossed through all stylistic levels with a triangular tale, *Willkommen in der Kantine*. Its main direction was towards grotesque dreams.

The stilted dialogue was strange to West German ears and, quite unusually, there was public protest.

In fact students of 1988 shockingly dealt very little with current affairs in the things they did. They obviously have their heads in the sand. They do not want to hear the bad news presented to them by the media.

Documentaries or even fictional films that try to deal with reality have become more and more rare.

There was a splendid film about the contamination of our planet from the famous Prague college FAMU. The oil-guzzler, a new kind of animal, is buried in construction sand and to survive hangs on to car exhaust pipes. This is a funny and at the same time alarming film using cartoon film techniques and imaginative camera work.

The Prague FAMU was awarded the prize for the best all-round film.

The students from Prague were worthy of a prize in the documentary section, a section that, judging by what was on show, appears to be neglected at other film colleges.

The Danish film *Du wärst besser glücklich* was awarded the prize for best individual film. It dealt with the subject of people getting married, with uneventful marriages which drew no particularly negative comment but which, at the same time, did not seem significantly to advance anybody's existence.

This year the films were generally weaker than last year. But there are hopes that the standard will again improve next year.

What was manifest was that the exchange of ideas was not so heated, the atmosphere not so lively as usual. Could it be that the Festival is becoming encrusted with tradition?

Or is it early competition that presses on the mind, or even the spirit of the times, which has us all in its grip? It is perhaps a little of all these.

Whatever it is, one thing is sure: these young film-makers have their eyes firmly fixed on the future because they see themselves as pace-makers for European co-productions in years to come.

Wilfried Geldner

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 22 November 1988)

Fairy-tales and adventures from all over Europe

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Eight Berlin cinemas are screening both new and not-so-new children's films from 16 European countries as part of the 4th Berlin Children's Film Festival.

The city's arts minister, Volker Hassemer, has provided a subsidy of DM10,000. The stories the films tell are at the same time similar and different — just like the countries they come from.

A child from Turkey who has to manage without the care of his family has problems. A Danish boy from a well-off family where the parents fight has other problems.

The festival spectrum is wide, extending from realism to classical fairy-tales. The significance of the fairy-tales knowns no frontiers — at least in Europe.

From Finland there is *The King without a Heart* by Päivi Hartzell and Liisa Helminen. At the beginning the king had a heart, just like everyone else.

But because he could not get over the death of his queen, he had had his heart conjured out of his body.

Now he rules his kingdom with his mind. The country prospers. Everything goes like clockwork.

But the king is unhappy. For when his heart disappeared he lost not only his sorrow but his luck.

The Turkish film about the brothers *Yusuf and Kenan*, by Ömer Kavur, is almost ten years old. Have the relations he told about in his film improved in the meantime?

The brothers, aged nine and 14, have lost their father in a blood feud. They flee from the countryside to the city, to Istanbul, where they vainly look for their uncle.

The little money they had is soon used up and they are in the vicious circle of poverty, hunger and crime.

Yusuf, the elder brother, begins to steal and eventually disappears into prison.

Kenan had what in Turkey, under these circumstances, is a real piece of good fortune. He finds a job in a metal workshop. In the Danish film *The Boy who Disappeared* by Ebbe Nývold, Jonas says to his girlfriend Lena: "Father and mother should never have married."

The boy leaves his parents and brothers and sisters, because family life behind the facade is hopeless and shattered.

He hides in a derelict house on the edge of a forest and works on the harvest in a fruit orchard. He makes friends with a boozy outsider, a sacked airline pilot.

He gets to know Lena, with whom he can talk about everything. As the summer is past he returns home voluntarily.

The Spanish production *The Rebellion of the Birds* by José Comerón Martin is one of the increasing number of films recently whose action deals with ecological problems.

It can certainly do no harm when children are taught to deal cautiously with nature at an early age.

But films, in which children replace adults who are coping with environmental catastrophes, leave a dual impression behind them.

The adults' failure cannot be compensated for by projecting the problem on children. They have problems enough of their own in childhood and adolescence.

Thomas Adam

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 13 November 1988)

■ EDUCATION

Schools 'must not again become mere transit camps on the way to a job'

Schools should not be a transit camp on the way to a job, delegates to a school psychologists's meeting in Nuremberg were told.

The meeting was told about teachers who gained no pleasure from teaching, of pupils who do not enjoy being at school and of headmasters who see their job as imposing their authority rather than as encouraging creativity.

Because of the increase in unemployment, many parents now regard schools as having a narrower function than before: that of getting their children through examinations.

The consequences are bad both for pupils and teachers: they feel they are under stress.

And parents' lives are made a misery by unwilling children who cannot concentrate on their studies and who are having difficulties with relationships — a characteristic which frequently develops into open aggression.

Helmut Heyse, from Trier, is the school psychologists' spokesman in the professional association. He says there are a lot of things wrong in schools. The

NÜRNBERGER Nachrichten

750 school psychologists (137 of them are in Bavaria) are involved with the darker side of school life.

Most are not part of teaching staffs and their analyses tend to go deeper than many education authority bureaucrats and educationalist like to admit.

Delegates made it clear that not only star pupils and the so-called problem children were the trouble. In their opinion the schools themselves were in a crisis involving teachers and school administrators.

Heyse said: "Schools and parents expect us to take a problem school and bring it back into the fold in the shortest possible time with the most cunning tricks possible."

But that was not the sum total of a school psychologist's work because school operated not only from the top (principal) to the bottom (pupil), even if many would prefer it that way.

Heyse said there was an "interplay" in schools, and teachers and school administrators often did not want to admit that this dynamism existed.

Two phenomena primarily accounted for frustration in schools, according to school psychologists, who regard themselves as similar to management consultants.

Despite all the contrary findings about people's needs and talents, education was unilaterally directed to training the intellect.

Also, communication and cooperation among the various elements of the school hierarchy was not good.

Most school principals followed the manager slogan: "You have to have the upper hand," instead of regarding themselves as having the task of encouraging creativity. This robbed teachers of their potentialities.

Many teachers no longer knew what was expected of them. In such an atmosphere, they were quickly discouraged and often remained aloof.

Helmut Heyse knows that many teachers only begin to live when school ends in the afternoon. They regard teaching as alienating work.

He knows many teachers who on the last day of school pack up their caravans and make off and only return at dawn of the first day of the next term.

During the school year they manoeuvre their way through, unwilling to be innovative and showing hardly any pleasure at all in dealing with educational problems.

In education ministries the view is becoming more common that school should not be painful, as in schools of old, and that getting any pleasure from learning is not reprehensible.

In a report produced by the Bavarian Education Ministry a whole list of measures was included, which aimed at appreciating the school as a place where pupils lived as well — not just a transit camp on the way to a job as in the past.

Teacher associations have also begun to take into consideration frustration in schools and develop ways of dealing with it.

These efforts have not yet had a wide effect obviously, but school psychologists want to hook into them with their know-how.

They regard it as their task not only to act as "firemen to deal with the individual problem school," but as advisers "for a school has a social task to perform, a task which it can fulfill more effectively by using the talents of the psychologist."

Bankruptcy

Helmut Heyse, who is the spokesman for school psychologists in the professional association of German psychologists, said schools "cannot go bankrupt from a lack of capital in the same way that a business can, but from a lack of inner content."

In his view a country such as the Federal Republic cannot afford having full-time teachers who prefer leisure time to being in school.

In the view of the school psychologists meeting in Nuremberg, when the situation is like that there is something very wrong.

As "re-cycling specialists" they want to introduce new ideas into this system — and so once more introduce pleasure into learning.

Ursula Kolb

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 7 November 1988)

Sweaty case of the stools that changed colour

Frankfurt school authorities are trying to get to the bottom of the mystery of the colourful backsides.

For years, angry parents have been claiming compensation for children's trousers and skirts which have been discoloured by school furniture.

The dispute surrounds 45,000 upholstered stools made by a school furniture manufacturer, Adam Stegner.

The firm says that the discolouration is caused by the alkaline action of perspiration from children under stress.

Is this a criticism of the school system? Could it not be caused by sweat from pupils sitting next to the window on a hot day?

A Frankfurt dermatologist, Dr Hubert Rieger, says that indeed, the sort of sweat caused by anxiety is not the same as the stuff that pours out during sport or in a sauna.

But the chairmakers were wrong in saying sweat was alkaline. It was all acidic, like the surface of the skin itself.

A spokesman for the Frankfurt education authority said that the oldest of the chairs were more than four years old and not in the best condition. These were doing most of the discolouring.

Roland Giebels, a psychologist in the Frankfurt Education Department, knows that the demands of modern education create anxiety among pupils. This can lead to perspiration.

Perspiring was one of the psychosomatic symptoms children are subject to. Outbreaks of sweating are not unusual in other routine situations as well.

An initial agreement for compensation with the firm was agreed, but this has now expired. So the education authorities have decided to pay for the chairs to be repaired — at 20 marks a chair.

No sweat.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 November 1988)

New challenges in classroom as family life declines

So many children were growing up outside the confines of a nuclear family (mother, father, children) that schools needed to adjust, delegates to a conference were warned.

Marina Fischer-Kowalski, a sociologist from Vienna, told about 100 politicians, sociologists and educationalists that the "heyday of the basic family" was past.

The era when more than 90 per cent of the population married at some stage in life and where, for 70 to 80 per cent of the population, the household meant "a complete family," was a thing of the past.

Frau Fischer-Kowalski said two factors were responsible: people who were once part of a family now see themselves as independent individuals; and marriage, the usual arrangement under which people lived together, was losing its significance.

Projecting the figures showed that across Europe, up to 50 per cent of the population remained unmarried. There was a 50-50 chance that every marriage would end in divorce.

The number of children born out of wedlock across Europe had again increased to 25 per cent — a percentage that was only previously reached before the First World War.

Up to the turn of the century the number of working women would increase which would lead to a changed form of the household — people sharing accommodation and single-parent families.

Dortmund educational researchers Hans-Günter Rolff and Peter Zimmermann presented data on the family in the Federal Republic.

They showed that "almost every second child born now will not grow up in the family into which it was born." Educational authorities must find ways of reacting to this.

Oskar Negt was a co-founder of the first "independent school" at Glocksee in Hanover in the 1970s.

He said that teachers and education ministers in the states must do a lot of re-thinking.

He said previous education reforms had degenerated into rationalisation reforms. The question must be asked afresh what and how children should be taught.

In view of the swift obsolescence of knowledge children must be taught how to process information.

In view of the difficulty Germans have dealing with their past Negt called for the development of the ability to remember. He said: "People who have no past have no future."

In addition it was important for children to have some knowledge of technology and ecology.

He said it was not a matter of computerising schools, but children must learn technical processes from computers up to being able to make judgments about nuclear power stations.

Educationalist Andreas Flitner from Tübingen called for new inducements to change schools internally and externally. He warned against making the school a substitute for all social problems.

Flitner pointed out that the difference between what was expected from the school and what it could do was getting continuously greater.

He called for re-thinking about the present structure of schools. He suggested that the school of the future would be a comprehensive school, open to all children until the afternoon and where pupils can learn to live with one another.

Teachers in such a school, he said, would have to re-think about their attitude to their work.

There were varying responses from representatives of teacher associations and the North Rhine-Westphalia Education Minister Hans Schwier (SPD) to new moves to reform schools internally and externally, made at the Dortmund syposium.

Schwier said that the "structure debate" had ended. He favoured "plurality," "regional interests" and within the European context "educational and cultural exchanges."

Dieter Wunder, chairman of the teachers union, criticised this formula, because it abandoned the creative force of policy.

Jutta Roitsch

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 November 1988)

■ MEDICINE

Freud view of child dreams challenged

Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis, claimed that children's dreams revealed the pleasure-oriented nature of nocturnal figments of an imagination unhampered by the suppression and repression of the adult emotional make-up and aimed at making *secret wishes come true.*

Psychological research findings show him to have been fundamentally mistaken, at least on this point.

Large-scale surveys in which children were asked about dreams that preoccupied them for longer periods show this to be the case, says Munich psychologist Franz Strunz writing in the 5/88 issue of *Psychotherapie und medizinische Psychologie.*

Motifs that can be interpreted, in the widest sense of the term, as signs of pleasure-oriented wish fulfilment account for less than half the dreams related.

Children's nocturnal fantasies are mainly (in between 56 and 79 per cent of cases, depending on the survey) accompanied by stifling feelings of uneasiness and upset.

All kinds of threat — animals, thieves, robbers, *murderers, catastrophes, death* and frightening strangers — worry sleeping children stiff.

Most children are paralysed with fear by the dangers they dream about, merely suffering them. Not until they are a little older are they better able to defend themselves in the mind's eye.

So bad dreams are a normal accompaniment of childhood, Strunz says, despite arguments to the contrary. In unfavourable circumstances they can be recurring nightmares that rob both children and parents of their sleep.

Recent findings indicate that one out of three ordinary boys and girls (meaning children with no history of mental disorder) have recurring bad dreams.

Recurring good dreams in contrast are an *unusual exception (as they are* among adults).

In their nocturnal hallucinations *children are upset to a strikingly frequent degree by animals of one kind or another.*

The percentage of dreams in which animals are involved declines from about 40 per cent at the age of three to a *mere seven per cent among adults.* Boys dream most frequently about animals between the age of four and six, girls between nine and eleven.

It requires little imagination to arrive at the conclusion that the animals they dream about symbolise their own uninhibited instincts as they clash with the demands and requirements of bringing up.

Thirty-four per cent of dream animals are wild and dangerous, especially those boys dream about. They are, for instance, snakes or serpents, lions and tigers or, simply, monsters.

Boys dream more frequently about species more *remote from our own,* such as reptiles, whereas girls tend to dream about mammals.

The more animals occur in these bad dreams, the sooner they are over, children frequently waking up and ending the *nightmare.*

The higher the zoological count in children's dreams, the more they feel a sense of aggression, misadventure, unfamiliarity, stress and failure.

They very seldom have friendly encounters with animals in their nocturnal fantasies, and even in dreams where no animals occur there are still acts of aggression.

A typical instance is that of the dreamer being attacked by strangers, mainly men, to the accompaniment of most unpleasant sensations.

Gory fairy tales, horror stories and TV violence are regularly said to be to *blame for these bad dreams. But this is* not the case, Dr Strunz says.

There is no clear scientific evidence *to prove that a higher intake of media* violence leads to an increase in anxiety and aggression in dreams.

Even in adults' dreams anxiety, displeasure or a feeling of being helplessly at the mercy of others are three to four times more frequent than pleasant sensations.

here seems to be little doubt that the prevailing sentiment of despair in our dreams is a reflection of the constant feeling of uncertainty that plagues us all.

Until the age of five, incidentally, children feel their dreams come from outside and are actually in the room and can be seen.

Not until they are nine or so do they come to feel that dreams are "in the mind" and a product of the mind's eye. *By the age of 10 they finally feel sure* that dreams have no basis in material reality.

So there is no point in telling a terrified child it has only been dreaming. It is better to console and pacify it in a simpler and more straightforward way.

Rolf Degen/df

(Mannheimer Morgen, 15 November 1988)

Still no cure for the baffling curse known as migraine

Migraine is an illness and not the indisposition it was long felt to be, Professor Diener of Tübingen told a Düsseldorf medical congress.

About one headache sufferer in five has migraine, bouts of which can last up to 24 hours. To this day there is no cure, merely ways of easing the individual waves of pain.

No root cause of migraine is known, as opposed to a wide range of contributory factors, especially dietary failings *such as drinking alcohol or eating chocolate or cheese.*

Yet not eating food the eater knows *can have a devastating effect is no guarantee* of not suffering from migraine. A bout can just as easily be triggered by hunger.

Migraine has long been felt to be psychosomatic, or triggered by mental or emotional upsets, which may partly be why victims were not taken seriously.

Certain categories of people or people with a history of migraine in the family tend to respond to pressure of time or trouble at work with bouts of migraine.

Even a minor change in the patient's way of life can trigger a bout. "Migraine can be caused by sleeping longer at the *weekend or by following a different dietary* routine." Professor Gerber of Kiel University told the Düsseldorf congress.

For one patient in four going on holiday was not an occasion for pleasure; it marked the onset of crippling headaches. His advice was to take two or three days off work before starting out on holiday.

This gives the body a chance to accustom itself to the change in routine. Any change may mean fear of what lies ahead, and unresolved fear, in keeping with tension of other kinds, can trigger a bout.

Medication to ease the pain is evidently not enough to make migraine more bearable. So doctors advise relax*ation training and training to cope with* stress as an additional precaution.

This mustn't be confused with exhausting sports such as *tennis. Jogging,* which stimulates the circulation, is more suitable.

In connection with the doping scandals at the Seoul Olympics the use of hormones to boost performance was also discussed in Düsseldorf. Their intake might well go unnoticed and unidentifiable, it was felt.



Specialists dismissed claims that the performance of women athletes could be boosted by administering sex hormones or by making use of the body's own hormone make-up in the early weeks of pregnancy.

Yet both Göttingen gynaecologist Professor Kuhn and Professor Wolf of Ulm were in favour of treatment to offset the hormone shortage to which all competitive women athletes are prone.

This was essential because, for one, the bone structure of young women athletes would otherwise remain imperfect. That was probably the cause of many spontaneous fractures.

So hormone treatment of this kind could not be termed doping; it was medically advisable and merely offset losses due to the exertion of training schedules.

Besides, Professor Kuhn said, although a small dose of hormones had little effect an overdose didn't boost performance either. Medal-winners were *likelier to have an average* hormone balance.

Professor Ulrich Stephan of Essen, dealing with pulmonary complaints, said they were no less frequent even though the quality of air in the Ruhr had *improved substantially in recent* decades.

The much-vaunted pseudo-Krupp *cough, laryngitis accompanied by* distended mucous membranes and a bad cough, was unlikely to be due to envi*ronmental pollution.*

Professor Sennekamp of Bonn said another lung complaint that was widespread *in the Ruhr was due to homing* pigeons, a popular hobby in Germany's industrial heartland.

Minute particles released by pigeons' feathers gave rise to allergic reactions in the lung, including shortage of breath, coughs and fever.

These symptoms usually subsided after a day or two, but they were triggered *not only by dust from pigeon* feathers but also by those of parrots, chickens and cage birds.

Hannes Hardering

(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, Essen, 18 November 1988)

■ ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

Researcher who became substitute mother to a grey goose chick

Konrad Lorenz' books on animal be*haviour were first published in the* early 1950s and soon widely read. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1973.

His scientific work had previously been held in high repute, but mainly by fellow-scientists. His imprint on comparative behavioural research, or ethology, has been second to none.

He established its system of concepts. He was first to study many basic phenomena in animal behaviour. He established the study of animal behaviour as a scientific discipline.

As much of his work involved geese, a confession he makes is surprisingly frank: "I have eaten many geese in my long life — grey geese — but I have never killed one.

"Whenever *roast* geese was served, it was due to some accident or other and I felt reluctant to carve it, especially if the bird was one I had known well."

Dr Lorenz, who is the most popular German-language academic scholar, celebrated his 85th birthday on 7 November in Altenberg, near Vienna, where he was born.

It was here in Altenberg more than 50 years ago that Dr Lorenz, a 29-year-old medical doctor and zoology student, first watched a grey goose chick hatch from the egg.

The gosling cracked the eggshell from inside and scrutinised the "strange bird" *outside. Lorenz made a movement and* spoke to the chick, which answered.

It stuck out its neck and whispered back. This brief second had been enough to establish a link between the young bird and its *ersatz* mother, Konrad Lorenz.

He then pushed the grey goose chick, Martina, under the warming feathers of a domestic goose that was envisaged as a foster-mother.

But it was no use. Time and again the chick slipped out of the mother goose's warm and cosy feathers and followed "Mother" Konrad wherever he went.

This process, which Lorenz termed *imprinting, is a swift learning process at* an early and sensitive stage of childhood in which certain behaviour patterns are learnt which can neither be repeated nor reversed in later life.

Lorenz published his observations and the criteria on which this learning process were based in 1935 in a book somewhat strangely entitled *Der Kumpan in der Umwelt des Vogels* (The Companion in the Bird's Environment).

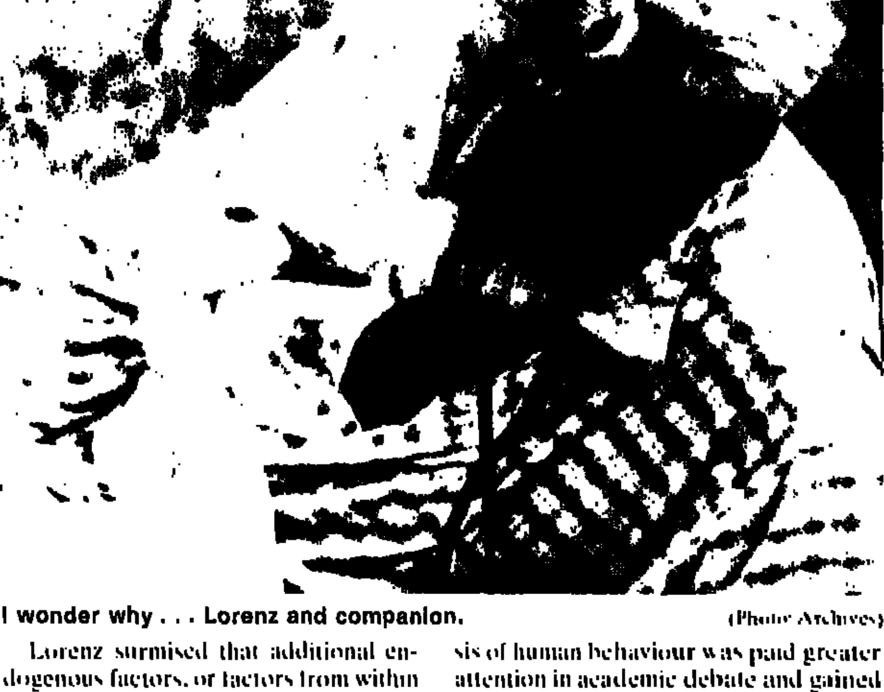
It immediately interested fellow-scientists at a time when comparative behavioural research was still a newly-established discipline.

In the early years of the 20th century *psychologists, philosophers and sectarians* dealt mainly with animal behaviour.

In the 1920s the Russian physician and *physiologist* Ivan Petrovich Pavlov, who was awarded the Nobel Prize for medicine, felt he could largely account for animal behaviour. It was, he said, merely a response to external stimuli.

In the 1930s the generally accepted view was still that animal behaviour was determined by reflexes (along the lines of Pavlov's experiments with dogs).

Lorenz initially also saw behaviour as a succession of reflexes. But there were phenomena in the animal world that made zoologists doubt whether Pavlov was right.



I wonder why . . . Lorenz and companion. (Photo: Archives)

Lorenz surmised that additional endogenous factors, or factors from within the animal, influenced their behaviour He first framed this hypothesis in 1937.

At almost the same time, but independently of Lorenz, the zoologist Erich von Holst provided experimental proof that endogenous factors really do influence animal behaviour.

He investigated the wriggle by which eels move. According to the reflex theory the contraction of one of an eel's muscle segments mechanically triggers the contraction of the next segment.

Yet if the central section of an eel's body is fixed in position, imposing a gap in this process of contraction, the wriggle still continues at the tail end of the eel.

Von Holst concluded that the eel's wriggle was not passed by reflex from one segment to the next. It was, he felt, based on a central pattern made up somewhere in the central nervous system.

Meanwhile, Lorenz triggered a storm of ideological protest when, in describ*ing several genetically programmed* behaviour characteristics, he noted that there were innate or congenital features of animal behaviour.

The term congenital merely means that certain information is stored in the genome, or full set of chromosomes. It doesn't mean the environment plays no part in forming behaviour patterns.

Even so, behaviourists in East and West were up in arms. They felt their theory (that hereditary abilities were of no importance), their influence and their livings were in jeopardy.

They accused Lorenz of having made animal behaviour independent of the *environment and inaccessible to external* influence of any kind.

Practical behaviourists had visions of *non-congenital abilities and of all living* creatures being made totally subject to manipulation.

These theories would probably never have been publicly discussed if they had related solely to the behaviour of hamsters, spiders or grey geese, but behavioural research was quick to include homo sapiens in its deliberations.

Lorenz and others sought from about the 1940s to prove the existence of congenital factors in human behaviour too.

From mid-century the biological basis of human behaviour was paid greater attention in academic debate and gained greater public interest, at times assuming the proportions of sectarian strife.

No behavioural research topic was the subject of such heated debate as aggression.

Lorenz dealt in detail with aggression among animals and man, there being many indications that *aggression may* have a congenital basis.

His book *Das sogenannte Böse* (The So-Called Evil) was published in 1963, by which time he was head of the Max Planck Institute of Behavioural Physiology in Seewiesen, Bavaria.

In it he claimed that heredity accounted not only for the physical or morphological appearance of living beings but also for their behaviour, with the human species being no exception.

Along Darwinian lines he argued that four main instincts had emerged alongside the development of increasingly complex organisms in the struggle for *survival.*

They were the quest for food, procreation, flight (in the sense of escape) *and aggression. Aggression, in his view,* plays a positive role in helping to ensure the survival of the species.

Like the shape of an animal's body, it has taken shape under pressure from evolution and was embodied in the genetic code, including that of mankind.

Yet aggressive behaviour toward members of one's own species is not inevitable. The way in which congenital behaviour is expressed depends on its *cultural control, which is subject to human* influence.

Man is capable of behaving against his *nature, of keeping a tight rein on it. Sometimes* he even has to.

When scientists grow popular they frequently run a risk of being taken in tow by political doctrines or parties. The grand old man of ethology has staunchly resisted.

He has never made speeches at party-political conferences and has seldom been mentioned in domestic political disputes.

Yet in his 70s he began to emerge as a cultural critic of his day and age, beginning with the paperback *Die acht Todsünden der zivilisierten Menschheit* (The Eight Deadly Sins of Civilised Man), of which nearly 500,000 copies have been sold.

In the style of Savonarola he laments the *Earth's* overpopulation, the destruction of traditions, growing indoctrination and the way our natural habitat is being laid waste.

He frequently signed ecological manifestos and protests. In 1978 he supported Viennese opponents of atomic energy who arranged for a referendum to be held as a result of which Austria's only nuclear power station was never opened.

Konrad Lorenz joined the ranks of the ecological protest movement. In 1984 he published a book entitled *Der Abbau des Menschlichen* (The Destruction of Human Qualities).

In it he diagnosed the evils of our day and age and warned against the risk of nuclear suicide and the self-destruction of mankind in the wake of environmental *pollution.*

He felt ecological and social catastrophe was in the offing. Nature and mankind called for yardsticks other than power, money and profitability.

Whether due to resignation or to pausing for breath, Lorenz the ecological campaigner is now taking it easy.

In time for his 85th birthday he wrote a book entitled *Hier bin ich — wo bist du?* (Here am I — Where are You?) in which he outlines the sum total of a lifetime's experience of grey geese.

He explains in vivid, graphic terms a species that "in many crucial features has a family life similar to that of mankind."

So he has come full circle. Half a century ago it all began in Altenberg when he happened to witness the birth of a grey goose chick he named Martina.

Robert Lutz

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn, 4 November 1988)

Continued from page 3

youth, family and women's affairs and health. She benefited from having been sprung on the Cabinet as something of a surprise by Chancellor Kohl after covert spadework by CDU general secretary Heiner Geissler.

She has never adapted entirely to accepted Cabinet behaviour and occasionally failed to get her own way.

The policy programme of the present coalition includes legislation on abortion advice, yet nothing has yet come of it, while a uniform Aids policy is ruled out by root-and-branch Bavarian views on the subject.

On narcotics she recently caused confusion among the coalition parties with ambivalent statements, but she fought for and won both responsibility for women's affairs and their appendage to the name of her portfolio.

After such experiences she may feel her new job will help her to gain a free hand from objective constraints. Herr Kohl will need to find another woman to take her Cabinet place.

The climate of opinion in the parliamentary party will not allow him to opt for yet another outsider.

In the past three years he has chosen four: Frau Süssmuth as Health Minister, Walter Wallmann and Klaus Töpfer as Environment Ministers and Rupert Scholz as Defence Minister.

Frau Süssmuth is being played as the joker in the pack for the second time in what has so far been a brief political career. The Chancellor is evidently banking on respect for her personally being converted into goodwill toward the CDU.

If this equation works she need not, by any stretch of the imagination, yet have peaked in her political career.

Rudolf Strauch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 22 November 1988)

■ HORIZONS

Double income, no kids, separate careers and (almost) separate lives as well



Marion and Alexandru Soceanu have careers of their own. She is editor of a Munich computer company's *house magazine; he is professor of computer* science 70 miles away in Regensburg.

They are an example of a growing band of couples following separate careers — and facing the difficulty of where to live.

He has an apartment in Regensburg and she one in Munich. He does not have to be physically present at the university every day, which means that they can meet during the week as well as at weekends. Sometimes he travels to Munich; sometimes she travels to Regensburg.

A study by the Bundeswehr university in Hamburg shows that in 25 per cent of cases where couples are both following careers, the most serious difficulty is living apart.

The study showed that 13 per cent had only "weekend marriages." Most of the others lived together and accepted the need to make a daily long journey by train or car.

Only a few couples were lucky enough both to find the jobs they wanted in similar locations.

Marion Soceanu worked in Stuttgart before she changed her job and went to Munich. She says: "Then we met only at weekends most of the time. It was an emotional strain for both of us."

She said she would never again accept such a situation, but her husband is not so sure whether he could resist an attractive job offer from say, Stuttgart, which is about 150 miles away — twice as far from Munich as Regensburg.

But they both agree that they would turn down any offer if it meant one moving further.

For career couples the question of where to live is difficult and never resolved completely, because at every career change of one of the partners there is a change in where the man or the wife works and their working hours.

Since she began her professional life in 1981 Marion Soceanu has had no difficulties with her superiors that she is *not the only person in her family who is* set on a career. "I have explained my position at every job interview, and no-one has ever made any difficulties about this."

The view among companies is that it is a private affair if a married woman wants to make a career for herself.

She amplified this by saying that she had never been given any kind of support by her employers, however. She referred to their "naive optimism" that she and her husband would be able to manage.

It is obvious that professionally ambi*tious men and women who have a part*ner who is career oriented have a different home-life to that of couples where only one goes out to work.

Up until a few years ago it was assumed that only one of the partners in a marriage had work ambitions. More often than not the man was the one who wanted to climb the career ladder, and his wife or partner actively, unobtrusively and without pay supported him.

She not only relieved him of all household duties and brought up the children, but put in an appearance on *appropriate occasions to promote his* career.

The cliché about a woman's place being in the home has not applied for a long time. Nevertheless men or women bent on a career, who have a partner equally inclined, must reckon with less support domestically.

According to the Hamburg study *there are not only problems in agreeing* where to live but in planning a family.

Most career couples are not anti-children. The survey showed that only 32 per cent of the men and 28 per cent of the career women could not decide when they should start a family.

It was also interesting to discover from the study that couples who were *both career-oriented did not see the* same things as problems.

Both saw mobility, the burden of having to work overtime, flexible working hours, planning a family and "weekend marriages" as difficult, but there were serious differences in other spheres.

For only four per cent of the men the answer was giving up a career, but the *figure* was considerably *higher* among women; 15 per cent felt they had to give up a career because of the pressures.

On the other hand, however, only 15 per cent of the men, but 26 per cent of women, would recommend to other couples to plan their careers jointly, and 13 per cent of women and only six per cent of the men spoke up for a compromise.

Women talked of joint career planning and abandonment of career ideas for their joint interests, but only eight per cent of the men talked of showing con*sideration for one another.*

It is a matter of individual opinion whether women are especially thoughtless or whether the men simply demand more consideration.

The figures show that the problems that career couples have to face are to a considerable degree the woman's problems.

Employers in the Federal Republic have found it difficult until now to take into consideration in their personnel policies the problems involved in having two careers, a job and being a wife and mother at one and the same time, which is a considerable task.

The head of the Hamburg study, Maria Krüger-Basener, said that most companies are indifferent to their employees' partners and the partners' careers. Most employers of the couples who took part in the survey knew of the couples' situation, but until now they could not handle this information. They were unaware of the problems for the employee and for themselves as employers.

Maria Krüger-Basener said that progressive employers could create a special position for themselves on the labour market by showing that they were *willing to go along with women's desires* for equal opportunities and emancipation, and be more oriented toward the family for men.

What progressive personnel policies should be can be deduced from the suggestions made by the couples questioned in the survey, and the management policies of American companies, which are way ahead of German firms in this respect, as they always are in matters concerning women's affairs.

In America, for instance, more than 40 companies have developed programmes *to smooth the way for especially*-qualified women to get to top management posts. They make efforts to increase their self-confidence and bolster the faith their male colleagues have in them.

For some time in many firms in America, the land of unlimited opportunity, a quota system at all management levels has been in operation. Experience in America has shown that women in top positions usually do splendidly.

Many American personnel executives defend the unloved quota system even *in the face of the few instances when a* company has had to pass over a more highly qualified man. One said: "Apart from the quota system there is no other way to operate equal rights for women effectively."

Flexible working hours are another possibility for easing the strain on women who are pursuing two careers, at work and in the home.

Alexandru Soceanu says, for instance, that he could do 20 to 25 per cent of his work at home just as well.

As a computer science expert he sees wonderful opportunities for introducing computers so as to make the place where a person works and *working* hours much more flexible.

More than a quarter of the men questioned and a fifth of the women would like their companies to introduce more flexible working hours and part-time work.

The Hamburg study again proposed that more liberal mobility policies should be pursued. These should go to the extent of companies helping couples to find work in the same place, within or outside the company involved.

A deliberate effort at offering jobs to *both man and wife could be made so as* to facilitate them both in gaining the most promotion possible parallel to one another.

Marion and Alexandru Soceanu put considerable stress on living together and pursuing their own professions. Marion Soceanu is certain of one thing: "I would never give up my profession." She is prepared to accept set-backs in her career, but she is not prepared to say goodbye to promotion for good.

Alexandru Soceanu is convinced that their dual professional involvement gives them both a *particularly* fulfilling life — despite or perhaps because of the difficulties they both have to overcome.

He cannot envisage having a usual family life and he does not have any desire for one.

He has learned that he can work well when he is at harmony with the world *around him and feels fulfilled in his* marriage partnership.

His professional performance would not be at its best were his working conditions unsuitable and he had to live apart from his wife.

Companies should take these facts into consideration. The Hamburg research workers point out that companies in the Federal Republic will not be able to do without career couples and highly qualified women in the long-term.

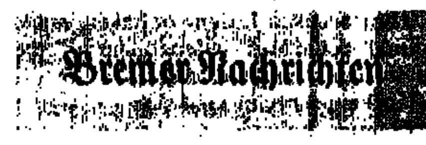
Population surveys show that the *number of men available for employ*ment will drop over the next ten to 20 years, but there will be an increase in demand for qualified people. In future there will be more women applying for jobs.

Companies will have to take on male employees who are prepared to work with women, whose career they must take into consideration with a good grace or otherwise.

Bärbel Krauss

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 12 November 1988)

Marilyn is out and Meryl is in: today's man has new tastes



Sex symbols of yesterday such as Marilyn Monroe and Brigitte Bardot no longer represent the female ideal in masculine eyes, delegates to a meeting were told.

A speaker said that women such as Liv Ullmann and Meryl Streep who ra*diated other qualities had taken their* place.

About 800 doctors, ministers, psychologists and psychotherapists from Germany, Austria and Switzerland were meeting in Lindau on Lake Constance to discuss "the male in a process of radical change" under the auspices of the International Society for Psychoanalysis.

In a programme of lectures and discussions, they sought to redefine the role of the male. Some scientists took the view that the middle classes in society seemed to be creating a man of today, a new Adam.

Walter Hollstein, professor at the Protestant University in Berlin, said middle-class men were prepared to meet the changed demands made of them by a society influenced by women, because they were not shy of this challenge at an intellectual level.

Hollstein pointed out three reasons why men's image of themselves has begun to falter.

The threat of ecological catastrophe and the *nuclear threat have had the* effect that male understanding of nature and technology has gone downhill.

The Women's Movement has asserted female claims to power and demanded "50 per cent of the privileges held until now by men."

More and more men have suffered from the pressures of success and *competition.* Hollstein said that typical male illnesses were still the results of stress such as heart attack.

He said that today's society had said goodbye to the male "he-man" image, but had also shown the door to *the* "softie," plagued by male frustration.

Hollstein described the male of the future "not as a ruler but strong."

A new world-view came into being at

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■ WOMEN IN JAIL

Mother-child experiment being tried in an open prison

DIE WELT

The problem of what to do with small children whose mothers are in jail *has always been a challenge for both* psychologists and politicians.

There are six prisons in Germany which have mother-and-child departments so that young children can remain with their mother in jail. These are all in closed prisons.

Two months ago, the women's prison in the Frankfurt suburb of Preungesheim opened a section specially for mothers and children — and part of it is an open prison.

It is the first of its kind in Germany. There are places for 18 mothers in the *open section and for five in the closed* section. Mothers in the open section can go out to work during the day while their children are looked after by trained staff.

The head of the jail is Hadmut Birgit Jung-Silberreis, 33. She says that the experiment is aimed at helping to ensure that the innocent party, the children, are not victims of the system because of offences by their mothers.

The building is not walled-off and, from the outside, looks like a modern kindergarten. Critics call it a state-run *hotel business. It is part of the Frankfurt* women's prison system that is responsible for 252 prisoners.

More than half of the women in jail have children who have to be looked after by someone. It is a difficult problem because 18 per cent of the children are younger than six and 27 per cent between six and 13. Most are sent to relatives, to temporary foster parents or to a home.

"I have seen the future," is written on one of the blue metal doors which suggest that they lead to small apartments *rather than cells.*

A photograph of a small girl has been glued to another door. A young, blonde woman pushes a pram in the corridor.

"It was born here two weeks ago," she says — and then does what, on this bright, autumn afternoon, thousands of other mothers do: takes her baby for a walk.

The women interned here make an almost happy impression. For some people, those who connect prison with punishment and revenge, the impression might even be too happy.

Rooms have a personal touch with private radios, books, paintings and posters. There are no uniforms. Uniforms are only for those prisoners who work inside the prison.

The colourful world these mothers live in with their children that makes it so difficult to believe that this is a prison.

A splendidly coloured duck wanders across the wall with its chickens; a parrot shows itself off in all its magnificence; butterflies fly in suspended animation through the air; and the crocodile has a comical set of eyes.

But there are restrictions. There are many things inmates cannot do. Alcohol is forbidden; so are cassette- and video-recorders; medicines not prescribed by the prison doctor are forbidden.

One 34-year-old women sentenced on robbery charges says that although there are restrictions on personal freedom, *the institution "seems to us more* like a home."

This mother of a 15-year-old daughter and a one-and-a-half year old boy doesn't want to talk about her offence other than to say: "I know I have done stupid things and that's got to end. I want to make a new start."

A book called Don't Forget Happiness stands on the bookshelf in her room. The radio is on. On the wall are romantic landscape photographs. Is this her dream island, her escape when, at night, the "home" once more becomes a *prison?*

Yes, she says. She dreams of "a good partner" and of a lonely island somewhere. The a cry of reality fills the corridor: Felix is hungry.

The regulations are more relaxed than in a full prison. There is not only regular parole here but also the chance of working outside the prison during the day. In these cases, specialised staff look after the children.

The home is divided into a an open part and a secured part. There are places for 18, including five in the se*cured area. There are at the moment* nine mothers in the open section.

Four of them go out to work and the rest are classed as "houseworkers" because they cannot find work.

A 37-year old old people's aide who has been in prison since June last year on robbery charges says: "The most important thing for me is to get a job and not always rejections." As she talks she keeps lowering her eyes as if blame and judgement are coming at her from all parts of the room.

She was in her seventh month of *pregnancy when she went to prison.* She told me: "Write that they should give us another chance." By "us" she meant above all her daughter who was born in jail but in whose colourful world the word "prison" has no special meaning.

According to a four-year empirical study by the Frankfurt Institute for Social Work and Social Development, this lack of awareness remains until about the age of three. The researchers say that only when children are older can this existence lead to insecurity and irregular behaviour. For babies and small children, living together with mother in such an institution is, despite all the problems, "a better solution in most cases *than* separation from the mother." Although women are less prone to committing offences than men and, as a rule, commit less serious offences and are therefore more often given non-custodial sentences, there is room for only three per cent of convicted women in open prisons compared with 11 per cent for men.

Bernd Maelicke and Vera Birtsch, both members of the research team, say that more places for women should be created. They also say that all six mother-and-child departments in German prisons should be converted to open institutions in line with this experiment in Frankfurt.

They say that only in open prisons is it possible to limit the emotional damage emanating from separation from the outside world.

To critics of the open-prison idea, Frau Jung-Silberreis refers to the "enor*mous mental strain" of a woman having* to return of her own accord to a closed prison every day "no matter how liberal it might be inside."

She said there were many women in closed prisons who found working outside prison too great a stress and who, therefore, did not want the chance to do so.

She rejected criticism that her department was too liberal: "We are simply not a hotel like people sometimes say. There is constant control and we keep in touch with employers. There are a lot *of regulations and these must be fol*lowed exactly."

In addition, the open nature of the prison made it easier for a coming to terms with reality. She conceded that such prisons were not suitable for all prisoners — for drug addicts, for example.

The risk was just too high that an addict would find herself unable to return at night. Much the same applied to a person sentenced to a long term, say eight years. They would also be faced with the enormous temptation of not coming back. Women waiting to be deported were in any case excluded.

Statistics in the *Land* of Hesse show *how few women are suitable for open* prison. Of the 252 female prisoners in Frankfurt, just 38 are regarded as suitable for the 60 places.

Nine of the 38 are in the open mother-and-child prison; five in the closed section. The remainder, mainly drug addicts and a handful of violent offenders or those with mental disturbances are *kept in traditional prisons or institu*tions.

Forty per cent are foreigners, many of whom have been involved in drug running, especially from Columbia.

Main offences, according to statistics since 1970, are theft and embezzlement followed by serious traffic offences and offences to do with money such as var*ious forms of false pretences and falsify*ing documents.

In the Frankfurt prison, there is no revolution taking place. Karl-Heinz Koch (CDU) the Hesse Justice Minister, says that for a limited number of people, the open-prison mother-and-child system is suitable because "it is not the children who are meant to be pun*ished.*"

By quartering them with their mothers it was hoped that their development would not be impaired in any way.

Peter Scherer

(Die Welt, Bonn, 4 November 1988)



Does he have a chance?

(Photo: Franz F. Moller)

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the end of the 1950s Beat Movement *and during the hippie era of the 1960s* up to the alternative and spiritual movement of the present, which changed the male.

According to what the psychologists had to say the new image of the male includes democratically proportioned wages and work in the home, as well as the accentuation of the female element in men, in which the scientists include passivity, the sense of abandoning oneself and weakness.

The "softie" who has renounced many male attributes seems to be also *facing a crisis. Walter Hollstein knows* a "jumble of psychotherapeutic literature from the United States," in which men, "oriented to feminism" complain to their therapists about a general feeling of powerlessness, breathing problems and potency difficulties.

Psychologist Lutz Müller from the Carl Gustav Jung Institute, Stuttgart, said that men were still having to face up to and confront masculinity.

The "man in the process of radical change" had a different image to the "female in the process of radical change."

According to a survey of middle aged German men, sex symbols such as Marilyn Monroe, Brigitte Bardot or Madonna were no longer idolised by men; female types were admired who radiated a partnership image such as Liv Ullmann or Meryl Streep.

Lutz Müller said that in a time when there was a lack of personalities people could look up to, heroes were needed.

No "heroes from Stalingrad" were called for but, according to Walter Hollstein, "Promethean heroes," fighters for Greenpeace, amnesty international or Robin Wood.

Several of the scientists in Lindau said that maleness would have to be redefined. The "rebellious, everyday guy" could be a new type.

dpa

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